

1882 and subject to overflow, contented with cultivating a small patch of corn and a garden. Now, however, most of them have selected their farms of one hundred and sixty acres ^{and} are scattered over the reservation; many of them have from twenty to forty acres under cultivation, and comfortable dwellings. The season has been ^{very} favorable, and all their crops are good. From four to eight stacks of wheat and oats might be seen around many of their homes, and in addition, several acres of flax seed lying as it was reaped down, ready for the thrasher. The corn also was very promising. Some of the Indians have received complimentary letters from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, which they highly prized. A copy of one is as follows:

Department of the Interior
Washington City, Aug 4th 1882

Indian
Report
continued.

James Walster,

of Santee Agency, Nebraska;
My Friend:

In a letter to this office, under date of the 26th, ult, your agent informs me that you have thirty two acres under cultivation with corn, flax, wheat, that you have trees planted around your house &c.

I am very glad to hear such good things of you, and you may rest assured that in time you will be fully rewarded for your energy and perseverance. The earth will yield as abundantly for an Indian as a white man. All that is necessary, is, for you to be industrious, and take advantage of your opportunities, and you will be sure of your reward. It may not come as fast as you would like, but it will certainly come. Continue in your well doing, that you may reap the benefit arising from the new life you have entered upon, and all the blessings and happiness that accrue to a good, industrious and upright life, will be yours.

Respectfully &c.
Niram Price
Commissioner

1882 On our way we called on Augustus Tuett, whose wife could speak English fluently; she informed us they had planted over 1200 trees for shade and "wind breaks," and had a large patch of vegetables and a number of stacks of grain ready for the thrasher. Others were equally as well situated.

From these well cultivated farms, we passed on to their mill, which is on the Bazile Creek, and is run and managed by an Indian. Some of their new wheat had been ground, and made superior flour. In conversation with several who had good farms, we found them intelligent, very desirous of improving their condition, and anxious that the title to their farms should be secured to them; a measure Friends have been urging on Congress for years, but thus far without success.

Indian
Report
continued.

When the fifty dwellings referred to are built, nearly all those who have commenced farming will have comfortable homes.

I may here mention, as an evidence of the progress of these people, that the blacksmith, carpenter, miller, herder, harness maker, teamster and mason, employed at the Agency are all Indians, receiving salaries from the Government, ranging from \$300 to \$500, per annum. Albert E. Trazier, superintendent of the Poncas, and Henry Jones, issue clerk, are also Indians. In short, there are twenty three employees at the Agency who are Indians. Several of these are women, employed in the laundry, one as cook, and one as assistant seamstress.

On Seventh-day we visited the Missionary Schools by request, and had pleasant interviews with the principals and teachers. It was very gratifying to see them all working together in harmony, the welfare of the Indian children being their chief concern. At present it was vacation at both missions. The Manual Labor of Government Schools was about commencing after vacation, about thirty children were present; a number more were expected the following week. The present teacher, George R. Cate, has resigned his position, to take effect 1st of tenth month next. The Agent was in correspondence with another, whom he thought might be