

1883. supplements to the Treaty of 1868, which, after earnest efforts on our part, was passed by Congress and became a law:

"Provided, That the patents authorized to be issued to certain individual Indians by the concluding paragraph of Article Six of the Treaty with the Sioux Indians, proclaimed the twenty fourth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty nine, shall be of the legal effect, and declare that the United States does and will hold the land thus allotted, for the period of twenty five years, in trust, for the sole use and benefit of the Indians to whom such allotments shall have been made, or in case of his decease, of his heirs, according to the laws of the State or Territory where such land is located, and at the expiration of said period the United States will convey the same by patent to said Indian, or his heirs as aforesaid, in fee, discharged of said trust, and free of all charge or incumbrance whatsoever."

Indian affairs. "And no contract by any such Indian, creating any charge or incumbrance thereon, or liability of said lands for payment thereof, shall be valid."

Under this well guarded Act of Congress the Santee Indians are rapidly locating their permanent homes. Already "a considerable part of the Reservation has been re-surveyed and allotments made to about one hundred persons, fifty of whom have filed their applications for patents."

This we consider one of the richest blessings Friends have achieved for the Indians, during our labors among them.

Agent Lightner has kindly favored us with a copy of his annual report to the Department at Washington, from which we make the following extracts:

"The issue of rations has quite recently been entirely discontinued to all except children attending school, and about one hundred old, infirm persons whom we must continue to support, the same as among whites."

I hope in a short time to be able to recommend the opening up of the reservation, and placing the

1883

Santee Indians as citizens, upon the roll of civilizations with the rest of mankind."

"They have been well supplied with farming implements and stocks. I have quite recently issued 220 head of American horses to them that were purchased for them from funds arising from the sale of lands that belonged to them in Minnesota. I have also built fifty frame houses, 14 x 28 feet, for them, to be paid for from the same funds."

"There has been a gradual advance, like a child growing from youth to manhood. Those who are with them from day to day scarcely note the change, but when we compare the present with ten years ago or less, we find the acreage under cultivation has increased more than five fold: that the quantity raised of wheat, corn, oats, barley, potatoes, &c, for sustenance has increased in proportion; so that we have no fears as to the future ability of the Santee people to support themselves as citizens."

"The Indians have learned trades, and now have charge of Blacksmith shops, carpenter shop, harness shop, mill and herd. They are also manufacturing bricks for sale, conducting the business on their own responsibility."

The Government Industrial Boarding School at the Agency appears to be in a flourishing condition; an increased interest is apparent in the attendance and labors of the school. The Mission Schools at the Agency are also in a prosperous condition; at one of them over 100 Indian children have been in attendance a portion of the year. Average attendance during the ten and a half months, 76. "The children are well cared for, and instructed in industry of various kinds."

The success attending these schools, which are laboring harmoniously together, is very gratifying. The education of the children and their instruction in useful labor are of vast importance.

We cannot expect as much improvement on the