

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FORTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No. 16.

STATE OF MAINE.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Augusta, February 5, 1869. }

To the President of the Senate and

Speaker of the House of Representatives:

I have the honor herewith to lay before the Legislature the Annual Reports of the Agents of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians for the year 1868.

Very respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

FRANKLIN M. DREW,

Secretary of State.

To the Honorable Governor and Council of Maine:

Agreeably to the requirements of the law, I hereby respectfully submit this my annual report in regard to the appropriations for the benefit of the Penobscot tribe of Indians and their condition for the year ending December 1st, 1868.

The amount of the expenditures during the year, as will more fully appear by the accompanying account, is as follows:

| | | |
|--|---|----------|
| For am't paid Superintending School Committees of Old- | | |
| town, Greenbush and Lincoln, per Resolve, | | \$300 00 |
| “ paid Tomer Socklexis, Governor, | “ | 50 00 |
| “ “ Attian Orson, Lt. Governor, | “ | 30 00 |
| “ expended for Agricultural purposes, | “ | 1,000 00 |
| “ “ “ Cross for Cemetery, | “ | 100 00 |
| “ “ “ Goods for Annuity, | “ | 2,000 00 |
| “ “ “ Bounty on Crops, | “ | 500 00 |
| “ salary of Agent for 1868, | “ | 300 00 |
| “ “ Supt. Farming, 1868, | “ | 150 00 |

For amount expended, Interest on Indian Trust Fund, per Resolve, as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Goods for Spring dividend, | \$730 32 |
| Support poor, aged, infirm and sick, | 1,742 14 |
| Medicine and medical attendance, | 195 28 |
| Funeral expenses, | 157 17 |
| Wood for poor and sick, | 281 92 |
| Incidental expenses, | 237 39 |
| | <hr/> 3,344 22 |
| | <hr/> 7,774 22 |

RECEIPTS.

| | | |
|--------|---|----------------|
| March. | By Warrant, | \$2,000 00 |
| June. | “ “ | 2,000 00 |
| Sept. | “ “ | 3,000 00 |
| Dec. | “ “ | 691 56 |
| “ | “ Goods remaining from Spring dividend, | 82 66 |
| | | <hr/> 7,774 22 |

An appropriation was made by the last Legislature of one hundred dollars for the purchase and erection of a granite cross for

the cemetery on Oldtown island. Upon examination into this matter and finding it would be impracticable to obtain one of granite suitable for this purpose, I purchased and erected a marble cross, which though smaller than that originally contemplated, I have reason to believe gives entire satisfaction to the tribe. Its entire cost does not exceed the appropriation, as will be perceived on examination of the vouchers herewith furnished.

The number of persons in the tribe does not vary much from that of last year. The census list taken by the Superintending School Committee of Oldtown in the Spring, shows their number to be 452.

These census lists vary from year to year more on account of the absence and return of different members of the tribe, than on account of births or deaths. Many of the Indians are of a migratory disposition, and extend their wanderings through the different Provinces and through the Northern and Western States, and prolong their absence sometimes to three and four years, and from this cause their names with those of their families are frequently dropped from the census list and are not added till their return. The number of deaths and births in the tribe during the year past, so far as they have come to my knowledge, is about equal.

The general health of the individual members of the tribe has been about the average of that of previous years. Although the Indian may possess a more vigorous and robust constitution than the white man, yet, from frequent exposure and hardships in their hunting excursions, a common neglect of the laws of health, want of conveniences and careful nursing and attention, I am of the opinion that more frequent sickness and of severer type occurs among them than among an equal number of their white neighbors. I have endeavored to furnish them such assistance and advice in sickness as have been in my power.

During the year there have been the usual opportunities for labor at fair wages, though not so large wages as during a few previous years, and the tribe have availed themselves of these chances of employment. I regret to add, however, that from the increased facilities for obtaining intoxicating liquors since the repeal of the constabulary act, much of their hard earned money has been worse than wasted in the indulgence of this expensive luxury. It would be greatly to the advantage of this tribe if some means should be adopted for a careful and rigid enforcement of a strict prohibitory law against the sale of all spirituous liquors.

Lore Alford, a well known land surveyor in this vicinity, recently died, leaving in the possession of his heirs all his field-notes and plans of the islands in the Penobscot river. He had made extensive surveys of the various lots on these islands, probably more than all other surveyors together, and these papers constitute the most reliable record of these lots, &c., and will hereafter be, if not now, of great value to the State. I have conversed with the executor of his estate in regard to these papers, and he offers to sell them for one hundred dollars. I make these statements in order that if you should consider the matter of sufficient importance, proceedings may be taken with a view to the purchase of these papers.

Fire wood from the public lots in the vicinity of Oldtown island is becoming very scarce within a reasonable distance of the village, and can only with difficulty and considerable expense be procured for the poor, aged and infirm. It will be necessary for some action to be taken soon in regard to this matter.

Under an order from the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs, dated March 28th, 1868, approved by the Governor and Council, I leased at auction after duly advertising the same in the Bangor Whig and Courier, the public farm on Orson island for the term of five years. Under the same order I was authorized to lease all the shores of the islands situated in Penobscot river not already leased, also those whose leases expire during the current year. The leases to be made under the act approved March 22, 1859. There have been during the year no leases of shores falling under the above description, but during the coming year the leases of the shores of several islands will expire and should be leased again. I would respectfully call your attention to chapter 96 of laws of 1862. The second section of that act provides that "not more than one hundred rods of shore shall be sold in one lot." Parties having these shores and the entire shore of islands of at least medium size, prefer to take a lease of the whole island. The surveying and marking all the shores into hundred rod strips and making separate leases would be of considerable expense to the State, and as long as the leases are sold at public auction, advertised in the daily papers of Bangor, and are eagerly sought after by parties owning or running logs, the interests of the State are well provided for, and there is no opportunity for complicity between the agent and the lessee. It would seem to be policy for the State to avoid that expense. I would therefore suggest that

section 2 of chapter 96 of laws of 1862 should be amended by striking out the above quotation.

Schools have been taught the past summer at the various places indicated in the appropriation bill and under the charge of the Superintending School Committees of Oldtown, Greenbush and Lincoln, who will probably report more particularly upon the condition of schools under their respective charge. The appropriation has not been fully expended, but will be, probably, during the coming winter. From frequent inquiries in regard to the schools, I am able to say that the attendance and progress will compare favorably with that of former years, and that the general management of the schools and expenditures of the appropriation have been peculiarly judicious.

It will be necessary to make appropriations for the ensuing year of the same amounts as last year for the several usual purposes.

GEO. F. DILLINGHAM,

Agent Pen. Tribe Indians.



STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 6, 1869.

Read, and on motion of Mr. KINGSBURY, laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

THOMAS P. CLEAVES, *Secretary.*