

The Great and Little *Osages*, under the care of agent Isaac T. Gibson, number about 3500. They are mostly blanket Indians, and obtain their subsistence largely from the plains. Since our last report they have removed from their former location, in the southern part of Kansas to the Cherokee lands, west of the 96th meridian. The efforts of their agent in establishing schools, and in other beneficial work amongst them, have been greatly impeded by the failure of the Government hitherto satisfactorily to locate the line of 96°. Hostile incursions of white people and the introduction of whiskey amongst these Indians have been fruitful sources of very serious trouble in their management. One school has been in operation for two months with an enrolment of 27. It is difficult to secure regular attendance, but there is improvement in that respect. The Roman Catholics have made earnest efforts to convert to their faith and civilization these tribes within the last 25 years, but amongst the full-blooded *Osages* they have had very little success, their pupils almost invariably relapsing into their previous wild habits upon leaving school. There are, however, about 225 mixed bloods who have adopted the habits of civilized life, and are men and women of average intelligence and education. They are mostly Roman Catholics, and are strongly prejudiced against Protestant principles. They are likely to prove an embarrassing element to our work amongst the *Osages*, because they sneer at the idea that it is possible to civilize the full bloods, their own Church having tried for 25 years and failed. The Catholics have opened no school upon the new reservation, and it is desirable that we should enter into the field as soon as the eastern boundary can be determined.

The *Quapaw* Special Agency has been established since our last report, and includes the small tribes located in the northeastern corner of the Indian Territory, viz.:

Senecas, Wyandottes, Eastern Shawnees, Ottawas, Peorias, Kaskaskias, Piankeshaws, Weas, and the Quapaws, —numbering in the aggregate nearly 1000 Indians. They have been under the care of sub-agent George Mitchell for several years past, but recently the Department has requested the nomination of a Friend for appointment as special agent; and, at the late meeting of the Committee in New York, Hiram W. Jones, of Springdale, Kansas, was approved for that position. Two schools have been in operation during the year in this special agency. The one amongst the Ottawas, under the management of Asa C. Tuttle and wife, has been partly a boarding school, they having taken the care of ten destitute orphans, supplied them with food, clothing, and lodging, instructed them in household industries, and afforded them the tuition of the school. The larger portion of their pupils board at their own homes, and have made very commendable progress in their studies. The First-day School has been well attended by children and adults, and is followed by a religious meeting. The Divine blessing has evidently rested upon these religious labors, and the practical results are apparent in the improved moral condition of the people. The school amongst the Peorias has been taught by J. Collins Isaac. There is no provision for boarding children in connection with this school. Various and unexpected causes of delay have hitherto arrested our attempts at providing other schools within the limits of this special agency.

In addition to the small tribes mentioned above as constituting this agency, there are located within its limits, and on the eastern bank of the Neosho, about 300 Delawares, who, becoming dissatisfied with their location amongst the Cherokees, have, by consent of the confederated Peorias, settled upon their lands, and opened farms. The Government has, until recently, tacitly

nees, Ottawas, Quapaws and Confederated Peorias, Kaskaskias, &c. They are located on each side of Spring River, and east of the Neosho River, and are mostly in an improving condition, having slightly increased in numbers during the past year. A boarding school has recently been opened on the Wyandotte reservation for that tribe, and the Senecas and Eastern Shawnees; and buildings for another are nearly ready on the Quapaw reservation. The Peorias have had a successful day school taught by E. W. Weesner, with an average attendance of 20. Of these 18 can read and write, and 14 are studying arithmetic. A First-day school has been in operation amongst this tribe for the last three months, with increasing numbers and interest. There are 40 names on its roll. The superintendent, Denison Abner, is a Peoria Indian.

The Ottawa school and orphanage has been regularly continued, since our last report, under the care of Asa C. and Emeline H. Tuttle. In addition to the pupils that board at their homes, an average of 25 orphans, some of whom belonged to neighboring tribes, have been boarded, clothed, and instructed at this institution. The First-day school and the religious meetings have been regularly sustained, and have been largely attended both by children and adults, and the good fruits of religious labor are very apparent. We present the following extracts from report of Emeline H. Tuttle:

"All the children are instructed in religious matters, morality, industry, and such general information as they are able to comprehend. During the whole winter, the chief and council, with many members of the tribe, have made it a point to visit the school every Sixth-day afternoon. These seasons have many times been blessed of the Lord, and thanksgiving, prayer, and praises have been offered for His manifold mercies. I now remember with interest how, on one of these occasions (the week

before Christmas), one of the Indians arose and said, 'Children, my heart is full. I don't know what to say; but I have been thinking in how many ways the Lord has blessed us during the past year. If I was to tell, and tell, and tell, I never could tell it all; but the greatest blessing that we have received is, having persons sent amongst us to teach our children, to tell us the way of salvation, and to take care of our orphans. Now, children, I want you to be good, and to pray every day that the Lord will bless us next year as He has this.'

"Generally, after the school is dismissed, my husband introduces various subjects of reform, such as industry, agriculture, &c.

"Our children, like the colored people, seem to think that the most important feature of an education is to be able to read the Bible, and are very happy when they find themselves in possession of a New Testament. Two of our small children have read the Testament through, and are now engaged in reading the Bible. One of these spends his time, evenings, in reading to the family; his father, who is a full-blooded Indian, seems delighted.

"We have thought recently it would be well for us to secure a quantity of family Bibles, and supply the people, so that they may keep a 'Family Record,' which has not been heretofore practiced, and few know their exact ages.

"I allude with deference to the religious part of the work in our midst; I believe it will not be too much to say that even here, in this remote land, there has been an awakening such as is not common; and that many souls have been born into the kingdom of the Redeemer, the particulars of which my husband has probably given thee. The happy death of our dear little Charlie has proved a wonderful incentive to the other children, who often say to me that they want to be good, and meet Charlie in that beautiful land.