

connived at this movement, and sanctioned our proposition to erect school-houses for them. One house is already finished, and the erection of another was intended, also a farmhouse for a family,—the design being to open an establishment on a small scale for the care of destitute orphans, board of teachers, &c., and, by means of a farm, to render it as nearly self-supporting as practicable. Recently, however, the Department has decided not to sanction the settlement of these Indians on the Neosho, and has directed a suspension of further expenditure on the part of the agent. We trust way will still open for some action for their benefit.

The *Sac* and *Fox* Indians are now under the care of agent John Hadley,—Thomas Miller having resigned. There are 448 upon their new reservation, containing 480,000 acres, and located west of the Creeks, and between the Red Fork of the Arkansas and the North Fork of the Canadian. Besides the above there are a few still upon their old reservation in Kansas, who refuse to remove. No schools have been established for these Indians. Until the recent erection of a saw-mill, there was no supply of lumber for the necessary buildings. A building for a boarding school is now in process of erection, and will probably be completed by the 1st of 11th mo. next. The crops of these Indians the present summer are almost a total failure from drought, and there is a prospect of suffering amongst them next winter.

South of the *Sac* and *Fox* Indians, and west of the Seminoles, are the *Absentee Shawnees*, nearly 700 in number, who are also under the care of agent Hadley. They are an industrious and deserving people, but suffered the loss of all their property during the war, and need help in their efforts to begin life again. They have suffered this summer from lack of provisions, being compelled to live mostly upon green corn, which has caused

much sickness amongst them. Our intention of opening schools amongst these Indians has hitherto been obstructed by lack of lumber. As soon as the mill at the *Sac* and *Fox* Agency can supply it, it is intended to erect two or more school-houses and dwellings for families amongst them.

The *Cheyennes* and *Arapahoes*, under agent Brinton Darlington, are mostly blanket Indians, and number about 3540. The agency is on the North Fork of the Canadian. Two schools, one for each tribe, have been in operation the present year, with encouraging results. There are several children who can read fluently in the First Reader, count to fifty, and sing a number of hymns. The *Arapahoes* are more docile than the *Cheyennes*. These tribes, formerly so warlike and so troublesome to the Government, have been quiet during the past year. The patient perseverance and Christian effort of their agent, we believe, have been largely successful. The history of some chiefs in these tribes, who were once great warriors, but who now manifest a desire for the peaceable pursuits of civilized and Christian life, is full of incidents of deep interest to those who are looking for the fruits of a peaceable policy in Indian management. But we have not space for details of this character.

In the *Washita* Special Agency, under the care of Jonathan Richards, and located on the Washita River, there are 1216 Indians, composed of several affiliated bands. Not much has been done for the educational benefit of these Indians, as the necessary buildings could not be erected. A saw-mill has now been sent thither, and it is confidently expected that three schools will be opened the ensuing autumn. Agent Richards has had one school in operation a part of the year. The employees at that point have suffered considerably this summer with bilious affections.

"One of the strongest evidences that we have that this is the work of grace on the heart is, that it changes their entire conduct, and whereas they have been obstinate at times before, they now seem lamb-like, and manifest a desire to please in every possible way.

"More than a year ago one of our little boys, nine years of age, who was then stopping with us, manifested a concern about his future welfare, and as we thought, experienced a change of heart. His family are irreligious people, and he is now stopping with an aunt whose husband is a Miami. A short time ago they went to a dance, and obliged the little boy to go, which he was unwilling to do; when they returned home he told his aunt that he felt very unhappy all the time, and did not like to be at such a place. She consented not to have him go any more, and promised to stay with him.

"The religion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ affects Indians and white people alike, and in every case the lambs need the fostering care of more experienced Christians."

It is interesting to observe the general improvement of nearly all the Indians of the Quapaw Special Agency.

The constantly increasing breadth of their cultivated lands, their strong fences and comfortable houses, their increasing herds of cattle and hogs, and a growing desire for the education of their children, and most of all, their deepening religious interest, which is gradually lifting them from superstition and vice to the light and practice of Christianity, are encouraging signs of the dawning of a better day.

The 300 Delawares who, at date of our last report, were living east of the Neosho River, on the lands of the Peorias, have now returned, by instruction of the Government, to the Cherokee country. We opened two schools amongst them last winter, which were kept up until near the time of their removal.

The *Sacs* and *Foxes*, under agent John Hadley, number about 425, and are located in the Indian Territory, immediately west of the Creeks, and between the Red Fork of the Arkansas and the North Fork of the Canadian. The condition of these Indians is much the same as at our last report. A school, numbering 14, has been in operation for several months, under the care of Joel Willis and wife. These children also attend a school for Scriptural instruction, and a meeting for Divine worship, which are regularly held at the agency on First days. The erection of buildings for a boarding school, sufficient to accommodate all the children of the tribe, has been delayed for a year on account of a misapprehension in relation to the funds for this purpose. Definite information has recently been received from the Department that the appropriation has been made, according to the last treaty with these Indians, and we trust that the work will be commenced as soon as practicable. The mortality among the *Sacs* and *Foxes* during the past year has been great, being estimated at about one-tenth their whole number. The crops at this agency are good.

The *Absentee Shawnees* are attached to this agency, and are doing well. They have good crops, and their herds, which were destroyed in the war, are now increasing. They have never enjoyed any educational advantages until quite recently. A school was opened for them last spring by Joseph Newsom. It is well attended, but the children are much in need of clothing. A meeting is held on First days, in which portions of Scripture are read, and religious instruction is imparted. There are about 700 of this fragment of the tribe, and by a late act of Congress they have had lands secured to them during occupancy south of the North Fork of the Canadian. By the same act, a like provision is made for the citizen Pottawatomies, many of whom