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**REPORT OF NEAH BAY AGENCY.**NEAH BAY AGENCY, *August 12, 1889.*

**SIR:** In compliance with custom and the rules of the Department I have the honor to transmit my fourth and last annual report from this agency. I inclose the census and required statistics.

As has been stated in my former reports these are not a farming people, but make their living almost entirely from the water. Fur seal, whale, halibut, salmon, and cod they catch in large quantities. The seal-skins they sell at Victoria or some of the up-Sound ports. The fish they dry enough for their food during the year, and sell large quantities to the towns on the Sound. These Indians own four schooners, with which they do their fishing and sealing. Two of these schooners are now in the extreme north on a sealing expedition.

I have two tribes of Indians belonging to this agency: The Makahs are located at the mouth of the Straits of Juan de Fuca and around Cape Flattery; the Quillehutes are 35 miles south of the cape on the Pacific coast. This latter tribe I have been using my best endeavors for the four years I have been here to have a reservation laid out for them, and in February last an executive order was issued withdrawing from sale and settlement and set apart for the permanent use and occupation of this tribe, a certain tract of land, "Provided, That this withdrawal shall not affect any existing valid rights of any party." This last proviso has had the effect of leaving the Indians just as they were before; for their village, which has been occupied by them from time immemorial, has been pre-empted by a settler, and no steps have as yet been taken to have him evicted. It is to be hoped that this will be done in the near future.

At a census taken as of June 30, 1889, the population of the Makahs is found to be 484; of these 232 are males and 252 females, of whom 76 are children of school age between six and sixteen. The Quillehutes number 252, of whom 125 are males and 127 are females, with 57 children of school age.

The schools at this agency have done good service during the past year, and the attendance has been good. It does not require a residence of four years at this agency to be convinced that the amount of good that could be accomplished for these children is very seriously affected by having the schools so near the homes of the Indians. Far superior results would be accomplished were the schools at a long distance from the tribes, when this constant intermingling of the children with the old Indians would not take place. Indeed, after four years' experience with a boarding-school right among the old Indians, I am almost compelled to believe that education increases the power of evil in children with no moral training at home. This these children have not, in fact, quite the contrary. It is not their fault. Let these children be educated for four or five years.

away from the debasing influence of the old Indian, what a vastly higher view they would have of what is right and what is wrong, of truth and falsehood, of virtue and immorality. To do this would please neither the old nor the young Indian, but what of that? Would it not be a temporal and spiritual blessing to the young Indian, and eventually to the entire tribe?

Hoping that my successor here may meet with more encouraging results, and be of more benefit to these people, with thanks to the Department for its courteous treatment, and with no regrets at leaving,

Very respectfully,

W. S. POWELL,  
*United States Indian Agent.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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