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 No. 9.

 UNITED STATES INDIAN RESERVATION,  
*Neeah Bay, W. T., September 20, 1869.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report, in compliance with regulations and circular letter from the Department of the Interior, dated Washington, D. C., July 26, 1869:

There is belonging to this reservation five hundred and twenty-six Indians: one hundred and seventy-five men, two hundred and two women, one hundred and forty-nine children.

I took charge of the property on this reservation August 10, 1869. I found it in a very dilapidated condition; the agricultural department much neglected. The result will be, but little produce raised on the farm this year, with the exception of about one acre of turnips, which was sown, and, judging from appearances, they would grow in spite of any effort that could have been made. A few potatoes were planted; many of them were not weeded, and now it is almost impossible to tell whether it was intended for a potato field or a berry lot.

Judging by the crop of weeds, I should think the portion of land now occupied for the reservation could, with a little care and expense, be made to raise all the vegetables the Indians could consume.

To all appearances, the Indians are disposed to be friendly with the whites, and willing their children should go to school. I am of the opinion that after this year, I can, with the present annual (\$2,000) appropriation, make the school meet the expectations of the government; but for the present year, the school appropriation is quite too small.

Many of the tribes are infected with scrofulous and other diseases, owing to their mode of living in filth and exposure, and for the want of vegetable food. They feed principally upon dried fish. Their houses are of a rude structure, and not calculated for ornament, convenience, or comfort. There is a large field for labor, and a great chance for improvement.

The reservation proper is quite too small for the purpose for which it was intended. With the exception of fishing facilities, it is nearly worthless. There is not to exceed two acres of tillable land upon it.

The former agent has taken possession of a section of country nearly

six miles square. A survey of the same is on file in your office. I would recommend that this portion of land be set apart for the use of the reservation. Nearly all the buildings belonging to this agency are on this land, and not on the reservation proper.

There is no house for the agent on this reservation. I would most respectfully suggest that there be an appropriation made for the purpose of building one.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HAYS,

*Bvt. Captain U. S. A., Indian Agent.*

Brevet Colonel SAMUEL ROSS,

*Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. T.*

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