

1877

Report of the Agent of the Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians

William T. Hobart

Indian Agent, State of Maine

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REPORT OF THE AGENT

OF THE

PASSAMAQUODDY INDIANS,

FOR THE YEAR

1877.



AUGUSTA:

SPRAGUE, OWEN & NASH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1877.

REPORT.

To the Honorable Governor and Council of Maine:

I have the honor herewith to present my Report as Agent of the Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians, for the year ending November 30th, 1877.

The expenditures will be more fully shown by my account herewith submitted, with the accompanying vouchers.

The appropriations for the year, as will appear by a resolve of the Legislature, approved February 7, 1877, were as follows, viz:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| For May dividend..... | \$400 00 |
| November dividend..... | 300 00 |
| Distressed poor..... | 1,600 00 |
| Agricultural purposes..... | 500 00 |
| Bounties on crops for 1877..... | 300 00 |
| Plowing..... | 150 00 |
| Salaries of Governors..... | 100 00 |
| Salaries of Lieutenant Governors..... | 40 00 |
| Wood for the tribe..... | 200 00 |
| Educational purposes..... | 300 00 |
| Salary of Priest..... | 130 00 |
| Dressing for land..... | 100 00 |
| Contingent expenses..... | 100 00 |
| Salary of Agent..... | 300 00 |
| Repairs on road at Peter Dana's Point..... | 50 00 |
| Stove and chimney for hall at Peter Dana's Point..... | 30 00 |
| Overdrawn balance of the year 1876..... | 375 08 |
| Total appropriation for 1877..... | \$4,945 08 |

The expenditures have been as follows, viz :

| | |
|--|------------|
| For May dividend..... | \$356 30 |
| November dividend..... | 302 00 |
| Distressed poor..... | 1,954 68 |
| Agricultural purposes..... | 465 00 |
| Bounties on crops for 1877..... | 339 00 |
| Plowing..... | 164 25 |
| Salaries of Governors..... | 100 00 |
| Salaries of Lieutenant Governors..... | 40 00 |
| Wood for the tribe..... | 191 40 |
| Educational purposes..... | 273 77 |
| Salary of Priest..... | 100 00 |
| Dressing for land..... | 94 33 |
| Contingent expenses..... | 115 80 |
| Salary of Agent..... | 300 00 |
| Repairs on road at Peter Dana's Point..... | 52 00 |
| Stove and chimney for hall at Peter Dana's Point..... | 32 06 |
| Overdrawn balance of the year 1876..... | 375 08 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$5,255 67 |
| Appropriations for 1877..... | 4,945 08 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance due Agent..... | \$310 59 |

As will be seen by the foregoing report, my expenditures in some instances have exceeded the appropriation, particularly the appropriation for distressed poor. One member of the tribe, Peter Mitchell, became insane, and was removed to the insane hospital at Augusta, and still remains there.

The expense during his sickness, for himself and family, previous to his removal to the hospital, and the expense of his removal there, drew largely on the poor fund. As the matter now stands, the town of Princeton is holden by the hospital for a portion of his support; but it seems to me, as he is really a State pauper, his whole support at the hospital should be charged to the State.

At the time of his commitment by the authorities of Princeton (which was done at my request), they supposed he was to be considered a State patient, and I think it proper that his support should be charged directly to the State.

There are thirty-three widows in the tribe, and the greater part of them are very destitute. I have allowed them from one to five dollars each, per month, as the necessities of each case in my judgment required.

The amount paid them, and the expense on account of sickness, (including Peter Mitchell's bill), and funeral expenses, has exceeded the appropriation for distressed poor, by \$354.68.

I think the prospect for the coming year is not very encouraging, as at the present time there is a great deal of sickness, and very little prospect of work for those to do that are well.

I would recommend an appropriation of two thousand dollars for the coming year for distressed poor.

The buildings belonging to the tribe are all in good repair, and no appropriation will be needed for that purpose.

As the facilities for getting firewood at Pleasant Point are very poor, I would recommend an appropriation for that place of one hundred dollars; twenty dollars for Pembroke, thirty dollars for Calais, and fifty dollars for Peter Dana's Point.

I would recommend an appropriation of fifty dollars for repairs upon the road leading from Peter Dana's Point to the Granger Turnpike.

I would recommend an appropriation of one hundred dollars for contingent expenses.

The school at Pleasant Point has been very successful the past year, the parents and children both taking more than usual interest in it, which is quite encouraging.

I regret very much to say, that at Peter Dana's Point there is not the interest manifested in the school, either by the parents or the children, that I would like to see.

I secured the services of Mr. D. Dresser as the teacher. He had taught the school before, and understands them

thoroughly, and I know he did all that could be done to make the school a success.

The members of the tribe as a general thing have taken more than usual interest in farming the past year, and I would recommend an appropriation of one hundred dollars for dressing for land.

I find upon taking the census of the tribe, there are in all 503; five less than last year.

Of the whole number at the time of taking the census, 255 were males and 248 females.

WM. T. HOBART,

Agent Passamaquoddy Indians.

PEMBROKE, ME., 30th Nov., 1877.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN COUNCIL, December 28, 1877.

ORDERED, That the usual number of copies of the Annual Report of the Agent of Passamaquoddy Indians be printed.

Attest:

J. O. SMITH,

Deputy Secretary of State.