

1878

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

1878.

AUGUSTA:
SPRAGUE, OWEN & NASH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1878.

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, 1878.

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, 1878, were as follows, viz :

For May dividend.....	\$400 00
November dividend	300 00
Distressed poor.....	2,000 00
Agricultural purposes	500 00
Bounties on crops for year 1878.....	300 00
Ploughing	150 00
Salaries of Governors	100 00
Salaries of Lieut. Governors	40 00
Wood.....	200 00
Repairs on road leading from Peter Dana's point to Granger turnpike.....	50 00
Contingent expenses.....	100 00
Educational purposes.....	300 00
Salary of Priest	100 00
Dressing for land.....	100 00
Salary of Agent.....	300 00
Overdrawn balance for 1877.....	310 59
Contingent poor fund.....	500 00

\$5,750 59

The expenditures have been as follows, viz :

For May dividend.....	\$364 70
November dividend	306 00
Distressed poor.....	2,000 00
Agricultural purposes	498 68
Bounties on crops, 1878	418 38
Ploughing.....	151 00
Salaries of Governors.....	100 00
Salaries of Lieut. Governors	40 00
Wood.....	210 86
Repairs on road leading from Peter Dana's point to the Granger turnpike	57 00
Contingent expenses.....	82 91
Educational purposes.....	273 21
Salary of Priest	100 00
Dressing for land	122 15
Salary of Agent.....	300 00
Overdrawn balance for the year 1877	310 59
Contingent poor expenses.....	288 98
	<hr/>
	\$5,624 46
Appropriations for 1878	5,750 59
	<hr/>
Balance due Indians	\$126 13

As will be seen by the foregoing report, the appropriations exceed the expenditures by one hundred twenty-six dollars and thirteen cents.

Peter Mitchell, a member of the tribe, sent to the Insane Hospital last year, still remains there. I did not think best to have him removed, as it is less expense to the State to keep him there, and he has much better care than he could have at his home.

There has been the usual amount of sickness in the tribe the past year, and an unusual number of deaths, particularly of children. The whole number of deaths during the year was twenty-six, twenty being of children under ten years of age. The principal causes of the deaths among the children

were whooping cough and scarlet fever. Included in the number of deaths among the adults, are Gov. Newell Neptune and wife. He had held the office of governor for many years and was much respected by the tribe.

The portion of the tribe residing at Pleasant Point have taken much more interest than usual, the past season, in farming, and it is their intention to do more in that direction in the future, and I would recommend an appropriation of four hundred dollars for bounties on crops for 1879, and one hundred dollars for dressing for land.

There was an appropriation last year of fifty dollars for repairs on the road leading from Peter Dana's point to the Granger turnpike, which was expended to good advantage, and as the road is very much needed, I would recommend an appropriation of fifty dollars, to be expended on the same road this year.

I would recommend all other appropriations same as last year, except that for schools. I secured the services of Mr. D. Dresser as school teacher at Peter Dana's point, and Mr. P. H. Rogers at Pleasant point, and I am satisfied they did all they could to make the schools profitable. I think if the appropriation could be increased, so there could be a summer and winter term, it would be much more beneficial to the scholars, as the vacation is so long they forget in a measure what they have learned.

By a resolve of the Legislature of 1863, the land agent was authorized to cause certain lots of land on the township owned by the Passamaquoddy tribe of Indians to be surveyed, the lots to be leased, and the money received from the leases was to be held in trust by the State, for the benefit of said Passamaquoddy tribe. My attention has been called to this matter during the past year by parties residing in the town of Princeton, who wish to lease some lots. Upon inquiry, I find that in 1868, by authority of the Legislature, the land agent leased to parties in Princeton all the wood and timber on the township over six inches in diameter, one

foot above the ground, and all the grass upon the meadows, no reserve being made of the lots surveyed under the resolve of 1863. In company with Hon. L. G. Downes, I met the lessees of the township at Princeton, and we came to the conclusion that the matter would have to come before the Legislature before any trade could be made in relation to the lots named above.

I find upon taking the census of the tribe, there are in all 513. Of the whole number at the time of taking the census, 245 are females and 268 males.

WILLIAM T. HOBART,

Agent Passamaquoddy Indians.

PEMBROKE, ME., 30th Nov., 1878.