

1880

# Report of the Agent of the Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians

C. H. Porter

*Indian Agent, State of Maine*

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REPORT OF THE AGENT

OF THE

PASSAMAQUODDY INDIANS,

FOR THE YEAR

1880.



AUGUSTA:

SPRAGUE & SON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1881.

# 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, 1880.

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, were as follows, viz :

For May dividends.....	\$400 00
November dividends.....	300 00
Distressed poor.....	2,000 00
Agricultural purposes.....	600 00
Bounty on crops.....	300 00
Ploughing.....	150 00
Salaries of Governors.....	100 00
Salaries of Lieut. Governors.....	40 00
Wood.....	200 00
Repairs on road from Peter Dana's Point to Granger turnpike.....	50 00
Contingent expense.....	100 00
Educational purposes.....	400 00
Salary of Priest.....	100 00
Dressing for land.....	100 00
Salary of Agent.....	200 00
Contingent poor fund.....	500 00
	<hr/>
	\$5,540 00

From the above appropriations the following bill was paid to Mr. W. W. Brown, my predecessor in office :

*State of Maine in account with W. Wallace Brown, Agent  
of Passamaquoddy Indians,*

	DR.
For paid for May dividends.....	\$190 40
Distressed poor.....	725 10
Agricultural purposes.....	198 00
Salary of Governor.....	50 00
Salaries of Lieut. Governors....	40 00
Wood.....	178 35
Agent's salary, three months, one week, ending March 6th.....	54 16
My expense to Augusta to settle account.....	25 00
Contingent purposes.....	6 10
	\$1,467 11

	CR.
By balance of appropriations for 1879, remaining in my hands.....	28 28
	\$1,438 83

Received payment,

W. WALLACE BROWN, *Agent.*

The balance of the appropriation, after deducting Mr. Brown's bill was \$4,101.17, which amount I have received from the State Treasurer and expended as follows, viz :

For May dividends.....	\$164 50
November dividends.....	294 40
Distressed poor.....	1,374 03
Agricultural purposes.....	315 00
Bounty on crops.....	207 24
Ploughing.....	146 25
Salary of Governor.....	50 00
Wood.....	56 45
Repairs on road from Peter Dana's Point to Granger turnpike.....	40 00



Number of deaths, children under nine years.....	14
"      "      adults .....	9
Total .....	<hr/> 23

Of the adults, four were quite aged.

#### AGRICULTURE.

There has been considerable interest taken in farming, especially at Pleasant Point, but they labor under the disadvantage of a lack of sufficient dressing for land, and agents have been obliged to exceed the appropriation for that purpose for some years past. Very few of the Indians have cattle or horses, and a great number of them have to depend entirely on the State appropriation for their dressing.

They have raised the past year :

Of potatoes.....	2,800 bushels
Oats.....	500 "
Wheat.....	50 "

besides buckwheat, peas, beans, &c.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

Through the instrumentality of the efficient Priests, Reverends O. M. Conlan of Calais, and R. Wissell of Eastport, I was enabled to secure the services of three Sisters of Mercy for a term of twenty-four weeks. They commenced teaching the first of July, and have continued to this time, having taught two months at Peter Dana's Point, and three months at Pleasant Point. They are capable and experienced teachers, and I have found in my visits to their school, and though having been there but a short time, comparatively, the Indians have learned to love them, and take much more interest in the education of their children than ever before. For instance, some of them going on their annual visit to Bar Harbor to sell their baskets, left their children at home, that they might not lose the benefit of the school.

The Sisters of Mercy not only teach in the schools, but also visit the Indians in their homes, teaching them house-keeping, washing, mending and many other ways of making home comfortable of which knowledge the Indians are sadly deficient.

Their labors are appreciated by the Indians who have voluntarily, from their own means, thoroughly repaired the Priest's house at Pleasant Point, at a considerable expense, and furnished stoves, &c., to render it a comfortable winter residence for them until their term shall have expired.

I would earnestly recommend that the appropriation for educational purposes be increased to six hundred dollars, as I am assured that the Sisters of Mercy would be permitted to remain through the year for that amount.

As I believe that education with religion is the lever which raises mankind into civilization, so I believe that these pious teachers can do more toward elevating the Indians to a higher condition of life, than can be accomplished by other means. The Indians are a people of very strong prejudices, and have been known, frequently, to keep their children away from school on account of a dislike to their teacher, and it can readily be seen what an advantage it is to have their teachers living among them, and interesting themselves in their general welfare.

At the annual election for representative, Newell Joseph of Peter Dana's Point was elected.

During the nine months of my office, I have made thirteen visits to the two villages, in order to become more fully acquainted with their conditions and interests. I would recommend that the same appropriations be made for the ensuing year, except the item for educational purposes, as before stated.

C. H. PORTER,

*Agent Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians.*

CALAIS, Nov. 30, 1880.

# STATE OF MAINE.

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IN COUNCIL, Augusta, December 28, 1880.

Received and ordered that the usual number be printed.

Attest:

J. O. SMITH, *Deputy Secretary of State.*