

Panamaquoddy Indians.

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To the Honorable Governor & Council
of the State of Maine

In compliance with a resolve approved
March 17th 1850 requiring the Agents of the
Penobscot & Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians
to report annually.

I herewith submit the following.

I find it extremely difficult to ascertain
the exact number of this tribe. In the fall
of 1859 the census showed four hundred & fifty
six to be the number of the tribe. In May
1860 I found it to be four hundred & forty two.
To whom I paid one dollar per head. In
November the number had increased to four
hundred & fifty three to whom I paid twenty
five cents per head, amounting to three hundred
and thirty nine dollars & 75^{cs}. which with
balance due on Nov. 1859, & May 1860 the
account will amount to three hundred & forty
seven dollars & 50^{cs}. leaving a balance due me
on May & Nov. dividends of Eighty seven dol
& 50^{cs}.

This tribe seem to have no
fixed home, but wander about from place
to place as suits their convenience for the
time being. A very large proportion of
those who call Pleasant Point their home
are obliged to move elsewhere in winter on
account of having no wood lot from which

which to keep their fires bright. The men
hunt considerably. Some of them pay more atten-
-tion to farming. But basket making is their
chief employment. As the women can do the
greater portion of the work. Another portion
that reside at Peter Dennis Point on Indian
Township are somewhat engaged with
Lumbermen in the woods on the Lakes.
This together with farming, hunting, basket
making, and what benefits the state allows
them, seems to them a comfortable living.

There is also another portion, a part of whom
live at Calais, and part at Charles Point. (So
called) whose means of living is much the same
as those before described.

I think the entire tribe are
becoming more and more interested in farming, &
give as my opinion that should the State
give them greater inducements, they would in
a few years become farmers instead of hunters &
basket makers. There is a marked change
for the better in this tribe within the last
few years. The schools have made a decided
improvement particularly in the youth as the
reports of the school Committee must show.

The number that attend school at Peter
Dennis Point would average from twenty
to twenty five, who as I learn from the
Committee of Penobscot made rapid progress

to thirty five, who as I learn from the
Committee of Penitons made rapid progress

This school was kept in a room of the
Priests house, which was entirely too small
and altogether unfit for a school-room.

I should certainly recommend an appro-
-priation to build a suitable school house
for that portion of the tribe, as it will not
only give them greater facilities for an
education, but will tend to make them still
more zealous.

The school at Pheasant
Point was wholly under the instruction of
the school Committee of Peary. I taught for
two of them in turn. I visited this
school twice, when under the management
of Mr. Stikney, but did not find that
strong interest manifested by the school
that I hoped, respecting knowing the superior
talent of the teacher to impart instruction
to his pupils.

I think it would be much
better to employ teachers who are acquainted
with the manners & customs of the Indians
and would make rules for the government
of the schools to which the scholars could
easily conform, for it is quite impossible
to adopt our common school system with
them as present. This school I think was open
about thirty five, length of time two weeks.

They have also been an increased interest
as before remarked, in agriculture. They are

Am just beginning to find out that Manure is necessary to secure a good crop and consequently success in farming. I was with difficulty that I induced some of them to use Guano. I gave them money to buy it with. And they used it very sparingly, but when harvest time came their most sanguine expectations were more than realized. Their Potatoes turned out beautifully, & extremely large, showing to those whose ignorance prevented them from buying the same happy result that something beside a good common soil was necessary for a good crop. The number of Indians to whom seed and money for seed was distributed was 109 but some as has always been the case with them did not plant. The number actually engaged in farming was about 90. And here allow me to suggest the passage of a resolve allowing no Indian either seed or money that was appropriated for agricultural purposes, who is not known by the agent to have the ground ready in which to plant his seed. This small sum of \$400. as appropriated by the state for agricultural purposes, when divided equally among those who claimed a share gave but three dollars sixty two and one half cents to the family. Divide this small sum again in seed manure plowing &c

and you will readily perceive that but a small
piece of land will be tilled. I would here again
suggest a larger appropriation for this branch
of industry. I expended in their farming
operations as per bills & receipts 404.96.

At the close of the last year I had
to tell you of the misfortune of the Indians
having the scarlet fever break out among them
at Pleasant point. I have now to tell you of
a greater misfortune a worse and more infectious
disease, the small pox which broke out among
them or a portion of them that resided at
Magaguadavic last winter seventeen in number
two of which died. Their sickness and other
necessary expense caused quite a large outlay
of money as the receipts will show. For which
there was no appropriation. I was notified of
their sickness by A. J. Wetmore Esq. of St. George
stating also that they were in a very destitute
and suffering condition. That the Parish had
helped them all they could and some provision
must be made immediately for their relief.
The sick ones were without a nurse and the
well ones not allowed by the inhabitants to go
about from the infectious nature of the disease.
and had it not been for the kind and
careful treatment of them by Doct Joseph Solar
Selmon whom I sent to their relief

the result would have been much more
alarming. An appropriation will be necessary
to meet this expense ^{\$174.65}. The people of Magaguadavic
deserve great thanks for their exceeding kindness
manifested to those poor unfortunate creatures,
they not only furnished them with fifty
or sixty dollars worth of provisions but on
their recovery the Doct. Cleansed them two or three
times and the inhabitants furnished them with
new suits as often, showing that spirit of
love to the creatures of Almighty God that we
all should feel. There are twenty very old
people in this tribe who have a strong claim
on that appropriation called poor money
These need more assistance than I am able to give
them from the small sum of \$300 and take care
of the remaining poor as their circumstances demand
I would therefore advise the appropriation of
one hundred dollars to expend in Blankets
and clothing for those old and very poor
persons. I have expended this year in this
department three hundred Seventeen & 50/100 Dollars.
The money appropriated for repairs of Churches
was expended as the bills will show. These
Churches on examination proved in a much
worse condition than I anticipated and
the amount appropriated for the two was
not sufficient to make necessary repairs on
either

All of which is respectfully
submitted

Geo W. Nutt Agent
for Pass^d Trade of Indians