

loss in the destruction of their entire corn crop, by the ravages of immense numbers of grasshoppers, the value of the crop being estimated at \$50,000. So severe a calamity, urgently appeals for relief, and I trust that Congress will grant it. Such aid as the department can give by the means at its disposal, and applicable to the object, will be furnished to them, as well as to the Poncas and others, sufferers from the same cause. Their educational interests have been much neglected, and something should be done to meet their need in this regard.

No material change in the general condition of the other tribes is perceptible. The Poncas continue friendly, and now that their treaty, made two years ago, has been ratified, and they have a permanent home secured, their gradual advancement in civilization, under measures put in operation for their benefit, may be reasonable expected.

The Assinaboines and tribes in the northern part of the Territory are in general friendly disposed. Causes, however, exist which may lead to trouble. Dissatisfaction is expressed at the encroachments of the whites upon their country; especially is this the case with the Assinaboines. They complain that, notwithstanding they yielded to the commissioners who negotiated the treaty with them in 1866, not yet ratified, the right of certain routes of travel for the whites, to settlements in Montana, another route is being used through their country without their consent. Unless some arrangement is made in the matter, satisfactory to them, it is feared that hostilities on their part will follow.