

would soon abandon their Indian dress customs, as very few now object to wearing full suits of white mens clothing and most of them really prefer it, while a great many of the women begin to adapt the more civilized wearing apparel. Referring to the Industrial Education of Indians I am fully convinced that the Government is prolonging the work of civilization by not providing sufficient help for instructing the Indians. There seems to be but few persons who understand or appreciate the desire of the Indians in general, at the present time to engage in agriculture and the slow progress made with the discouragements encountered from want of knowledge in every branch of the work.

Where Indians have located upon land with a view to cultivating farms they stand greatly in need of a constant teacher and a sufficient number of experienced men should be maintained among them to direct and instruct them in both farm work and the proper care of stock.

These instructors should be practical farmers who should reside in the settlements among the Indians, each instructor to have assigned to him a certain number of (say from ~~50 to~~ 100) families. There are 1100 Indian families belonging to this agency (aggregating 4500 persons) of whom there are 470 families located on claims and occupying log cabins built by themselves and every family of the ~~100~~ ¹¹⁰⁰ is engaged in the cultivation of a field or small patch of ground. They are located along the Missouri River and its tributaries, on the west side, for a distance of 60 miles, which precludes the possibility of an agency ~~farmer~~ ^{farmer} assisting them to any great extent where there is but one or two men for that purpose at an agency and many of them cannot be visited by the farmer during the whole summer season.

In order therefore to benefit the Indians and advance their interests of the Government, Indian reservations should be divided into farming districts with a practical farmer for each district, who, under the direction of the head farmer, would conduct the work of their respective districts. This agency from its size and importance should be divided into eight or ten such farming districts and such a system would stimulate the different district farmers and also create a spirit of emulation among the Indians, such as nothing else could bring about and