

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

*Washington, August 22, 1878.**The U. S. Indian Agent,**Agency,*

Sir: As the teaching of Indians to subsist themselves is considered to be the most pressing duty of the Indian Bureau, this Office has determined to insist that every practicable effort shall be made by the Agents to render the Indians of their respective Agencies self-supporting.

The practical test of improvement at your Agency will be the decrease in the quantity of supplies which the Government will be called upon to furnish to your Indians

Unless your Indians produce annually increased crops until such time as they shall become independent of Government support, your administration of Agency affairs cannot be said to have been successful.

If the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, does not exhibit a very large percentage of increase of such crops as may be successfully cultivated by your Indians, it will become the duty of this Office to make a radical change in the personnel of your agency employees.

Upon receipt of this you will report at once as to what arrangements you are contemplating with a view to an increased production over the crops planted during the fiscal year 1878.

Forward as soon as possible your estimates for any plowing and planting which may be done this fall

Very respectfully,

WM. M. LEEDS,*Acting Commissioner.*

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Trusting of improvement
of Indians - Protestant
test of success to increase
amount raised by Indians