

I shall now refer briefly to the history and present condition of each of the four Homes at present under my charge, and to our prospective Homes at Medicine Hat.

AND FIRST, THE SHINGWAUK,

that being the oldest of the four. In the summer of 1871 an Indian Chief, Augustin Shingwauk by name, who is at present about 90 years of age and still living at Garden River, near Sault St. Marie, was at work in the bush, making birch-bark troughs for the next season's sugar making, and while so engaged he was thinking about his people; he was thinking how the white people, like the rising sun, were coming in from the east and spreading themselves over towards the west and filling all the country, and how the poor Indians were being driven back and back. Then a thought struck suddenly like an arrow into his breast. He thought, "I will go down below among the white people and plead the cause of my brethren and ask that a "big teaching wigwam" may be erected here, at Garden River, in which our children may be educated and taught to work like white people, so that when they grow up they may be taught to gain their living in the same way as the white people do." This was the old Chief's thought, and he very soon put it into execution. He had only \$4.00 in his pocket, but he got on board a steamboat and took his passage to Sarnia, 300 miles to the south. Here he met with me, as I was at that time missionary to the Sarnia Indians. The old Chief told me his errand and asked me to go with him as interpreter. I consented, and we spent ten days or so going about addressing meetings, and collected about \$300.00. That same autumn I left Sarnia and went to live among the Indians at Garden River. The following spring I called the Garden River Indians around me and said to them, "If you Indians are really in earnest in your desire to have a big teaching wigwam for your children, we had better set to work and collect the money," and I said, "I think the best plan will be for me to cross over the ocean to the country of your great mother, the Queen, and there plead your cause, and I would propose that an Indian Chief should go with me." And so it was arranged that Chief Buhkwujjenene, a younger brother of Chief Shingwauk, should go with me to England. Chief Buhkwujjenene was attired in a blanket coat, leggings and moccasins, a skunk skin on his arm and medals on his breast, and arrayed in this manner he arrived with me in England. We spent about two months going about addressing meetings and collected about £800 (\$4,000.00). Then we returned to Canada, went back to Garden River, and the following summer the long talked of "big teaching wigwam" was erected. It was a long frame building with