

AN INDIAN FOR THE INDIANS.

Up about the northern end of Lake Manitoba are several small reserves of Saulteaux Indians who are nominally under the care of the Roman Catholic Church, but who have never had a resident missionary, and indeed were not even occasionally visited by a Roman Catholic priest, so that they were left in practical heathenism. This condition of things appealed to the heart of John Passage, a Christian Indian, who lives on the western shore of Lake Winnipeg, and he makes regular Sabbath visits to one of these reserves, tramping across country by a bridle path a distance of some 25 miles for the purpose. A gentleman of Winnipeg whose business calls him to pay occasional visits to these out of the way places, attended two of his meetings in the month of August and was very much impressed with what he saw. The little building was completely filled with an audience of about sixty. The demeanor of the congregation was devout, the singing hearty and full of feeling, and the preaching most earnest and impressive. Altogether from what the visitor saw and heard at the meetings and on the reserve, he was convinced that the work is manifestly a work of God and the Indians are in a condition peculiarly open to missionary effort. Passage, who speaks English fairly well, is a poor man, earning a rather precarious living by fishing, and is content to go on as at present doing what he can for his Master, but through the influence of the gentleman above mentioned, who is a Presbyterian, the matter has been brought before the attention of the Synod's Committee on Foreign Missions with the suggestion that the Presbyterian Church adopt the mission and assume the support of Passage as a missionary. But Passage is not a Presbyterian and indeed is apparently in the happy condition of knowing very little of the denominational differences that divide Christendom, so it has been thought better not to take official action, but to allow some of the members after correspondence to secure an independent fund from such as are willing to help, to enable this self-denying and devoted servant of God to carry on his good work free from the distractions due to too narrow an income.

John Thunder, a former pupil of the Bird Tail day school has begun to farm. His first crop of wheat amounts to 270 bushels.

Articles made by the children in the Okanase day school were exhibited at the Strathclair Fall Show, and won prizes amounting to three dollars.

When Miss Walker, of the Portage la Prairie school, was in Ontario during the summer, the little girls of her school wrote to her and kept her informed of their doings.