

DOMESTIC.

QUEBEC. *From Mr. Percy Stocken. Sarcee Reserve, to Miss Borland, St. Peter's, Quebec.*

"Archdeacon Tims being away in England, I am writing to acknowledge your much appreciated bale. Allow me to thank you and the members of your Branch for the kindness shown in helping us to carry on our work amongst our country's wards. Everything in the bale was of use, and the blankets came at a time when they were really needed. My brother, who is acting for Archdeacon Tims during his absence, has requested me to give you an account of the work carried on in our school. This boarding school was started in 1892 with six boys. In the spring of 1894 girls were first admitted. We have never found great difficulty in getting the children in our school, and we keep up the reputation of being the only Reserve in Alberta where all children of school age are in the school. I, with the eldest boy, rise at six in the morning and put on all the fires; the boy puts them on in the boy's wing, and I in the kitchen and girl's wing. This seems quite natural, but in doing so we are knocking out of the Indian youth that inborn presumption that Indian women were born for drudgery, and so when the youth leaves the school as a young man, and marries, we have by this one training inculcated into him a spirit of manliness. At 8 o'clock we have breakfast. The girls, superintended by their matron, Miss Crawford, prepare the meals, and in this department the girls really excel. School hours are from 10 to 12.15, preceded by prayers, and from 2 to 4. All the children attend except an alternate girl who works in the kitchen. The children do well in their school work. There are three in standard 1, three in standard 2, and six in standard 4; I have one boy in standard 5, 14 years of age, a bright promising lad, takes delight in studying, can talk and understand English like a white boy; he desires to go into the High school and mix with white boys. Supper at 5.30, study for an hour, prayers at 8 o'clock and the children go to bed. I stay till the boys get into bed, bid them good-night, take the lamp and go to my room. Not a word is spoken in the dormitories after that; 'good-night' is always the last word. We have six boys and eight girls in our school. This is one of the smallest Reserves.