

troubles; I have lost many loved ones, but I know it was God's will; He did it for my good." I hope I may meet them all one day when I get to my heavenly home."

NANCY SHINGWAKOONE said, "I praise God I am still living. I am quite content in the way I am. Though I am blind, I will see my Jesus when I get to Heaven. I often can see Jesus now. When I go outdoors I can see nothing; I walk against a house or a stump. I am sure I shall see Heaven when I leave this world. Once I was coming up the hill from the lake, and I heard a voice calling my name. I looked but could not see any person, and I went on until I got to the top of the hill. Again the voice said, 'Nancy, your faith will carry you to Heaven.' I cast myself upon the ground and prayed to Jesus to help me through all my troubles, and take me home where I can love Him better than I can here."

PHILIP SPARLING.

THE HOME WORK.

MANITOBA CONFERENCE.

Letter from REV. J. M. HARRISON, dated REGINA, May 22nd, 1890.

I STARTED on the 3rd of May to visit the northern part of the Regina District, and by direction of Conference to inspect the school conducted by Mrs. Tucker on Moose Woods Reserve. I took passage by construction train to the end of the track, which took me within thirty-five miles of Saskatoon. Bro. Peters and I drove twelve miles, and spent the night at a ranch, where the family (Mr. and Mrs. Wilson) live all alone, their nearest neighbor being eight miles distant. People in the favored east know little of the hardship and privation of these isolated settlers. I suppose these people have not heard a sermon since they came to their present home, which is now four years ago. On Sabbath morning we rose early, and drove twenty-two miles to service. I preached twice in Saskatoon to very good congregations. The school-house in which the services were held was too small to accommodate the number gathering, and some were turned away unable to get admittance, while many others brought chairs with them, so as to be sure of obtaining seats.

On the following Monday we drove to the reserve, a distance of eighteen miles. We found Mr. Tucker away from home, engaged in getting Government supplies for the Indians. We very carefully inspected the buildings erected jointly by the Government and our own Society. I have not seen better log buildings in the country during my sixteen years' residence. The workmanship is good; the construction is strong and likely to be durable. The mission-house and school-room are under one roof, giving excellent accommodation for sleeping apartments. The school-room is very nicely arranged, and the desks, which are home-made, are a marvel of neatness. I was much pleased with the bright appearance of the pupils and the degree of intelligence exhibited by them. I examined them closely, and was pleased to find boys who had been under instruction only eighteen months, and scarcely a word of English, now able to read in the

Second Book with considerable ease, and write from dictation very fairly. In arithmetic I found them well advanced. The more advanced scholars could multiply with very considerable ease.

Mrs. Tucker has done grand work, and is a most devoted Christian lady. She has now mastered the Dakota language sufficiently to explain the lessons in Sioux to those who do not understand the English. Mrs. Tucker's influence is seen in the improved conditions of the homes. I visited nearly all the houses on the reserve, and found many very clean and tidy; indeed, some of them would have been a pattern after which certain white people of greater pretensions might well model their housekeeping. I saw a large number of new houses in course of erection which, under the direction of Mr. Tucker, who is a trained mechanic, display a great deal of taste. The Government has given this band a small reserve on the South Saskatchewan, and each family has a plot of forty acres. They are not "Treaty" Indians, but the Government provide a small amount of rations for each individual. Many of the Indians are trying hard to learn to farm, and I found that the testimony of all the settlers with whom I conversed testified to their industry. I was very much struck with the very small number of children in the homes of the Indians. There has been a large number of deaths among the young people. In some homes where six and eight children had been born there are but one or two surviving, and in some instances none. The school-room could easily accommodate a larger number of pupils than are now on the reserve. There are but seventeen of school age now, and of these I found thirteen in the school-room. There are a large number of families belonging to this band at Prince Albert, among whom I learned there were nearly forty children. Would it not be possible to persuade the Government to induce them to go to the reserve and settle down, as that would enable their children to get some education, and would soon lead them to adopt some kind of home life? I am satisfied that the industrial school system is the only possible solution of the Indian question. Mr. Tucker is taking steps to destroy, as quickly as possible, the prevailing practice of exchanging and divorcing wives at the will of the "lords of creation." I think he is succeeding as well. By the generosity of the Bible Society I was enabled to present each child who could read with a copy of the New Testament, and Mrs. Tucker said she would have each child read a verse every morning on the opening of school. I do not think it possible to place the interests of our school in better hands.

On Wednesday we started for Prince Albert, *via* Clarke's Crossing, Fish Creek, Batoche, and St. Laurent. We felt considerable pride as we remembered that our soldier boys came so readily to the front, fought and conquered. I was permitted to visit the room where Captain French was shot, and where he and others who were wounded died. The mark of the cruel ball which proved fatal to the gallant captain is still to be seen where, after piercing his body, it passed through a partition and lodged in a post some twelve feet from the window.

Much of the land on the South Saskatchewan, between Saskatoon and McIntosh, a distance of thirty-