

## Young People's Department.

### TWO LITTLE INDIAN BOYS.

**T**HE accompanying picture represents two little Indian boys from the Shingwauk Home, who last month accompanied the Rev. E. F. Wilson on a tour through Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, and have now gone with him for a few weeks' visit to England. The eldest boy is named William Soney. He is about 12 years old, and is a Pottawatami, from Walpole Island. He has been only two years and a half at the Shingwauk, and when he first came could only read a very little and knew not more than a word or two of English. Now he has made such good progress that he can read in the Third Book. He writes an excellent hand, has advanced in arithmetic as far as reduction and compound multiplication, and also learns English grammar and geography. His Indian name is Pah-tah-se-wa, which means "Coming this Way." The little boy is named Zosie Dosum, he is about 8 years old, and is an Ojebway Indian from the north shore of Lake Superior. When he first came to the Shingwauk, a year and a half ago, he was a regular little wild Indian, living in a birchbark wigwam, and knew nothing about the English language or A B C. His Indian name is Ah-ne-me keens, meaning "Little Thunder." The two little boys are arrayed in the costume of the wild Sioux and Black-foot Indians in the Northwest, and they think it great fun going through their part of the performance at the meetings. When they first appear on the platform they are in the uniform worn at the institution, consisting of a dark blue navy serge jacket, trimmed with scarlet, ending in a tight



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band at the waist, around which pass two folds of a netted scarlet sash, the ends of which are tied and fall at the side; the trousers also are of dark serge. Both the boys repeat texts of Scripture from memory, and know where to find them in their Bibles. The elder boy sings very nicely and gives one or two hymns at each meeting; then they repeat a dialogue, the elder boy asking the younger one where he comes from, etc. In reply to the question, "How do you like being at the Shingwauk?" he answers, with some emphasis,

"First-rate." Then Soney says to Zosie, "Say this in our language, Zosie, 'I like coming to this place very much,'" and Zosie replies, "Ah-peche ne minwandumomaunduhpe ke-pe-ezhahyaun." Later on in the proceedings the two boys dress up—as shown in the picture—and by reciting another dialogue explain to the audience the meaning of their various articles of apparel and accessories. The rattle is Zosie's hand comes from Indian Territory. It was made by the Cheyenne Indians, and when anyone is sick the medicine man rattles it all day and night to make him get well. "What's that stick in your hand

studded with brass nails and two leathern thongs attached to it?" is asked of Soney, the elder boy. "That is the kind of whip the prairie Indians use when they ride their ponies," answers Soney, "it is said they use the lash for their ponies and the stick for their wives." The little boys then finish up with a war dance, accompanied by drum rattle and a weird kind of song, to the great amusement of the audience.

Mr. Wilson is very anxious to build a new institution for Indian children at Medicine Hat, out in