

arrived at a high state of civilization. They have their own Governor, Parliament Buildings, Upper and Lower House, Senators, Representatives, Judges, Sheriffs, Lawyers, etc., and also publish several newspapers. At their Capital, Tahlequah, was a male seminary for 200 boarders, and a female seminary for the same number of young Cherokee ladies. The latter building cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000, and was built entirely out of Cherokee funds. The Cherokees are a wealthy people. They are largely intermixed with white blood, and talk almost entirely English. They number about 22,000. The Cheyennes and Arapahoes in the western part of the Territory are still in a condition of semi-barbarism, wearing blankets, and dwelling in teepees; nevertheless, they have within the last few years made considerable progress in agriculture. The Cheyennes number 2,200 and the Arapahoes, 1,200; they live together and occupy 4,250,000 acres. Of this, about 5,000 acres are at present under cultivation. Last year they raised 50,000 bushels of corn, 3,000 bushels of oats, and 1,500 bushels of wheat. They are still all heathen, but their children are receiving Christian education. At the Cheyenne school were 60 pupils, and at the Arapahoe school 80. There were also 50 children at the Mennonite Mission boarding school. We stayed several days among these people, witnessed the branding of 400 head of cattle, the "beef issue," and the issue of rations. Beef is issued alive and the Indians run the cattle down and shoot them like buffalo. The Ponca Indians number about 600. They are a wild looking people, wearing blankets and all manner of trinkets made of beads, teeth, shells, claws, etc. There is a Government school established among them, at which 84 pupils attend. The attendance is in a measure compulsory, as it is the duty of the native police to bring in the pupils, and to catch them and bring them back if they run away.

DENVER.

After leaving Ponca, we had a long run of 600 miles west to Denver, in Colorado. Here we met with friends, and Mrs. Wilson went to stay with them, while I went off into the wild regions of New Mexico and Arizona to visit the Apaches, Navajoes, Pueblo and Zuni Indians, and to explore ancient ruins.

Our Prospects.

OUR Indian Homes are getting now to be well known and to be more widely supported: Government also is dealing liberally with us, and we have good hopes that some of our dreams of the past will soon see their fulfilment. At *Elkhorn* three buildings out of the four are well nigh completed; and

the contract for the fourth, the Boys' Home, is already let. Mr. C. D. Mackenzie, lately our foreman at the *Shingwauk*, has gone up to take temporary charge as Superintendent, to overlook the erection of the buildings, and to collect pupils. By and by we shall hope to have a clergyman and wife placed in charge. At the *Shingwauk* our work is increasing, and we have lately secured the services of Mr. Thomas Dowler, formerly of Bracebridge, as Local Superintendent. We have good hopes of receiving a liberal Government grant this summer towards enlarging and extending our present buildings; we hope to add to our land, increase the number of our pupils, and teach additional trades. By next fall we hope to have 70 boys and 30 girls; and in time, if our plans can be carried out, we shall have accommodation for between 200 and 300 pupils. It is a great advantage having other Homes in Manitoba and the Northwest connected with us. We are now weaving cloth, tailoring, and making boots and shoes, a large proportion of our products being despatched to the *Elkhorn* school. We hope also, if God will, to make a start this summer with our *Western Homes*. They will probably be located at Medicine Hat, just on the border between Assiniboia and Alberta. Government approves the location, and intimates that help may be expected, and we have about \$820 so far in hand towards building.

Onward and Upward.

THE Onward and Upward Club at the *Shingwauk* Home has become quite a success. Nearly all the boys in the Institution have enrolled their names and quite a number of outsiders—ladies and gentlemen interested in our work and living in the neighborhood—have become members of the club. The idea is "onward" towards civilization, education, general improvement and success in life: "upward" towards heaven and God. Meetings are held every Friday night, at which there are recitations, songs, debates, and speech-making, and once a month or so during winter a social is given, which is generally largely patronized by visitors from the town. The boys are shaking off their shyness, and many of them stand up boldly and speak out well when their turn comes to take the platform. Mr. Wilson is permanent President of the club, but Chairman and other officers are elected every six weeks. During the meetings the boys do knitting or netting, carve wood-work, etc., and the things they make are sold for the benefit of the club.

Mr. C. D. Mackenzie has gone to take charge temporarily as Superintendent of the *Elkhorn* Homes.