

deal of fair land. To the north is Touchwood, a trading post of the Hudson Bay Co. Around are lakes in which much fish is found, and when the buffalo is gone the Indians will flock hither to fish. A good many half-breeds are here now. It is a central point. Roads run south and west and north. The Blackfeet country, or that covered by Treaty 7, is sure to be a great grazing country in the not distant future. The advantages of the route thence to Qu'Appelle, on and alongside of the river, are unmistakable. There is a permanent settlement. There is also a Roman Catholic mission. But there is no timber, and it is said the frosts menace the crops; but this is true of a good many other places where men, not with bad results, take the risks; and, notwithstanding these last-drawbacks, I should have recommended Qu'Appelle as a site for a Roman Catholic industrial boarding school, were it not that other considerations of a weighty nature point to Buffalo Lake or some spot on the Red Deer River running by it. The advantages of Qu'Appelle should, however, be utilized in the near future, either on the contract system, or by means of a boarding school, immediately controlled by the Government, on a denominational or secular basis. On the shores of Buffalo Lake the school would have the advantage of being removed far from possible contact with whites for many years at least. Timber is sufficiently near along the river to the east and west. The land, I am assured, is good. The most pressing considerations of workableness point to those shores as the site for a Roman Catholic boarding industrial school.

(6.) An industrial boarding school, in connection with the Presbyterian Church, should be established on Riding Mountain. The Presbyterians have already been very successful here. There is plenty of timber and the land is excellent. There is, it is true, no abundant supply of fish in the Little Saskatchewan. In all other respects, however, the locality is every thing that could be desired. The Indians here are represented as intelligent, and the children eager to acquire.

The importance of denominational schools at the outset for the Indians must be obvious. One of the earliest things an attempt to civilize them does, is to take away their simple Indian mythology, the central idea of which, to wit, a perfect spirit, can hardly be improved on. The Indians have their own ideas of right and wrong, of "good" Indians and "bad" Indians, and to disturb this faith, without supplying a better, would be a curious process to enlist the sanction of civilized races whose whole civilization, like all the civilizations with which we are acquainted, is based on religion. A civilized sceptic, breathing, though he does, an atmosphere charged with Christian ideas, and getting strength unconsciously therefrom, is nevertheless, unless in instances of rare intellectual vigour, apt to be a man without ethical backbone. "But a savage sceptic would be open to civilizing influences and moral control only through desires, which, in the midst of enlightenment, constantly