

send their children for an education. Accordingly, in the course of the summer succeeding the establishment of the mission, such a school was established with Mr. McBeath—also from Kildonan—as teacher. Even before it opened there was guaranteed a sufficient number of paying pupils (*i. e.*, of pupils other than Indian) to relieve it from being chargeable upon the mission funds.

STARVATION AND SMALL POX.

The winter of 1868-9 was very severe, and the Indians suffered greatly from cold and hunger. A number of families made their way to the mission utterly destitute, and would have starved but for what the mission families could spare for them. The young men and women belonging to these families could not be induced to attend school. It was the kitchen not the school-room that attracted them; so Mr. Nisbet caught them with guile, by himself opening a night-school in the kitchen, and treated everyone who came to a lesson in English and a Bible exercise as well as to a satisfying supper and a comfortable room.

In the summer of 1870, the Saskatchewan plains were devastated by the small-pox scourge. In some cases whole bands of Indians died, and hunters in the autumn found groups of *teepees* standing over skeletons. There had not been a single survivor to bury the dead or to carry the news. Mr. Nisbet by his promptness in vaccinating several hundred of the Indians within reach, saved Prince Albert from the plague, but many that had been in the habit of visiting the mission were carried off.

During this year the statistics of the mission show that Prince Albert had a population of 106, some settled permanently and some not permanently. There were seventeen baptisms during the year, six of those receiving the rite, being adults. There were 26 names on the communion roll, and the school had an attendance of