

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Micmacs of Lennox Island.—Some of their houses are well finished and comfortably furnished.

They are making fair progress in farming. More wheat was sown last year than ever before. The potato crop was injured to some extent by the protracted wet weather.

The Indians are well-behaved and moral. Many of them belong to the Temperance Society.

The children attending the school on Lennox Island are said to be making fair progress.

EDUCATION.

The increasing number of schools established for the benefit of Indian children imposes no slight task on the Department. Returns are received at the end of each quarter, which are carefully examined, and the attention of the teachers called to any defects therein. These returns show the names, ages and educational status of the pupils, the subjects taught, the daily, weekly and quarterly attendance of each pupil, and the daily average attendance at the school during the quarter. Recent measures were taken to ascertain the condition of each school building, and where repairs were found necessary or more furniture or school material to be required the requirements were promptly met.

It was hoped that before this date an arrangement would have been made with the several Provincial Governments for the inspection of Indian schools in the respective Provinces by the local School Inspectors; but although a despatch was in the early part of the year addressed to each of the Lieutenant-Governors on the subject, no arrangement has as yet been effected.

Return F, placed herewith, contains statistics in respect to each of the schools from which returns are received by the Department.

SANITARY CONDITION.

There have been no epidemics, if we except the ordinary ones of measles and scarlet fever among the Indians during the past year.

The members of quite a number of bands were vaccinated, but several bands refused to submit to the operation; and in the case of others the vaccine matter, probably owing to delay in using it, became inert, and so failed of its object. Every exertion will be made to complete this most necessary service during the ensuing year.