

We are kept quite busy all the time. We have about thirty acres of land under cultivation, and we are pleased to say that all the work has been done by the boys, who take great interest in farming. The most of the boys have planted potatoes, sowed some grain and other things for themselves. We feel that unless a boy is trained to make a living for himself, his education will be lost entirely, and the money spent on him thrown away.

The big boys are employed, at present, in breaking up new land. They work one half of the day on the farm while the other half is spent in the school-room. We are having showers of rain nearly every day and the crops are very promising. This will encourage the boys in farming. The girls assist in housework, sewing, etc., and they try to do their work well.

In regard to the work in school I am pleased to say that the children are making good progress. Freddie, a boy of six, can read any lesson in the first book. Tenie and Emma, who have only been here about a year and a half, are able to read passages of Scripture from the New Testament. Nearly all learn the golden texts for every Sabbath and take a deep interest in the Sabbath School. Every Wednesday evening we have a meeting at which the Sabbath School lesson is taken up and explained to them in order that they may be familiar with the lesson before the Sabbath. We feel that we cannot press too much of the gospel truths upon their minds. Unless their hearts are filled with the truth of the gospel the education which they receive is likely to be of no use.

One of our little girls (Alma) died to-day. She was not well for a long time; the trouble seemed to be bleeding at the nose. She was taken home to her parents about a week ago. Her brother Arthur went home yesterday to see his little sister, returning to-day. I went out to meet him. He looked very sad and down-hearted and upon questioning him about his sister he hung down his head and said "Dead." I could read the feelings which existed in the poor boy's heart although he did not express them. Some think that there is no such thing as affection in the Indian, but if they could only see the grief of an Indian for the loss of a friend, a sister or brother, they would soon begin to think that there is such a thing as affection in the Indian's heart, and if once changed by the grace of God it would be a beautiful heart. It was sad that little Alma, so kind and so loving, was taken away, but we feel that she is safe in the arms of Him who said, "Let the children come unto Me."

The Indians had their sun dance about ten days ago. It was held on the prairie a few miles on this side of Broadview (if you remember that bare plain). None of our children attended this year. We made a little picnic to keep them from being lonesome and I do not think that any of them were sorry that they stayed with us during the day. If possible it is best to keep them away from any influence that has a tendency to pull them down.

A great number of the Indians are spending their time doing nothing. They come down here to the lake and pitch their tents and stay for days, lying in their tents doing nothing during whole days. They seem to have no trouble, no thought for the future, and yet before winter comes these young men, who are able to cultivate land and provide for their families, will be starving. We hope and pray that these little children who are now with us will become useful men and women when they grow up, and that they may be instrumental in lifting up the Indian to a higher state than the present.