

had often interpreted for the agents, and in no instance in our experience had the Indian been harmed, but always benefitted; that instead of being made slaves, that when the Government established law and order, for the first time in their lives they would be *free men*.

"Many believed our report." The Stonies went to the Treaty in all confidence, and so far as they and the Crees were concerned the Treaty might have been accomplished in a few hours. Since the Treaty last fall, the desire to brew mischief has continued to show itself, and this has been helped along by the fact of the proximity of the discontented Sioux. It is to be hoped that the attention of the Government will be directed to some means of either settling these warlike men, or sending them back from whence they came. Something must be done, soon. It is said they are trying to get together a confederation of the Indians on this side of the line for the total extermination of the whites. Up to this time our Indians have paid no attention to any of these things, any more than in common with all classes, they have felt anxious that the Government would take hold of the Sioux question and thoroughly silencing all warlike demonstrations, establish law and order throughout the whole of the North-west. And yet these same Stonies are a branch of the Sioux, and just as energetic and brave, as they are bred in the mountains. They have always, in defence, been a terror to the Plain Indians, with the exception of the Sarcees, the smallest tribe in the North-west, yet, if hostile, the most dangerous. What but the Gospel has changed them,

and what but the Gospel still keeps them loyal. It gives them faith in man; it gives them faith in Government; it gives them faith in "God over all, blessed for evermore."

Our day and Sabbath-schools have been well attended during the year, and this spring, the school-house was full for some time. The results have been gratifying. Some are learning to speak English, and as they gradually change their mode of life and settle at the Mission, they will, I have no doubt, make good progress in learning.

Materially, we have also made some progress.—A school-house has been built, the church has been weather-boarded and otherwise improved, the chapel at the Elbow, or Fort Calgary, has been finished so as to be occupied. Some of the Indians have built houses, and nearly all have set to work this spring in tilling the soil. As yet they have no implements but a few hoes; but this fall we look forward to the Government supplying them with ploughs, &c. Thus we have reason to hope for a slow, but sure change for the good of this people. These material moves, we are confident, will help in the spiritual and educational advancement of our natives, for they will do away with the dissipating influences, more or less, of a hitherto altogether migratory life. Personally, we have had a great deal of travel, a great deal of anxiety, and a considerable amount of sickness during the past year; but, at all times and in all places, our blessings have abounded, and we can do no better than praise God for all His mercy, and reconsecrate ourselves, our all, to His service. Pray for us.

CHANGES IN THE BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT.

WE much regret that failure of health has, for the present, necessitated the retirement of the Rev. WILLIAM POLLARD from active work. The Rev. A. E. RYSS and family have returned to Ontario, after ten years' successful service. The Rev. R. H. SMITH has been appointed to Victoria, and Chairman of the District. Bro. Smith and family left Toronto for Victoria on Monday, July 22nd