

VIII. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

We have now described the leading features of Education in Manitoba. Before stating the general condition of intelligence among the people, a word should be said about the Indian population. The whole number of Indians in the Northwest and British Columbia is 97,057. Of these, 34,520 are under treaty stipulations; and of these Treaty Indians there are 11,311 in the Manitoba agency. The Dominion Government is bound by treaty to maintain schools among the Indians. The treaties with the Manitoba Indians date from 1871 to 1875. There are forty-one school houses among these 11,000 Indians, and twenty-four schools are in operation. Hitherto the teachers have been of inferior qualifications, and have been wretchedly remunerated. It is hoped that there may be improvement in this respect.

In the general intelligence of its white population, Manitoba occupies a high place. The Dominion Post Office authorities state that the proportion of letters and newspapers passing through Winnipeg Post Office is very large compared with the numbers of the population; they state, moreover, that the standard of excellence in handwriting is above that of any other Post Office in Canada. It must be noticed, however, that the French native adult population can seldom write. A petition from a French parish with upwards of a hundred names, had all but six signed by a cross, along with "sa marque." The immigrating population of a higher class coming to Manitoba is great. Retired clergymen (five in one settlement), graduates of British and Canadian Universities, half-pay army officers, and the better class of British and Canadian farmers, all engaged in tilling the soil, are numerous. There are published in Winnipeg three daily newspapers, seven weeklies, and a number of monthlies. There are in Manitoba and the Northwest some forty newspapers published, printed in the leading places all the way from Lake of the Woods to the shadow of the Rocky Mountains.

One of the most powerful educative agencies in the Province, doing much by lectures and publications to keep alive a taste for literature and science, is the Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba, which last year received and disbursed for its several purposes nearly \$4,000. Some account might also be given of