

*Indian*

**- OUR WORK -**

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**Medical Work Among the Indians**

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**W**ITHIN the limits of the Simpson District, British Columbia Conference, there are about 8,000 Indians, the remains of a much larger population which, until within a few decades, dwelt there in wild, free savagery. A race singularly strong, well developed physically, brave and energetic, but with the peculiar traits of Indian character—revengeful, proud, and improvident.

The general state of health was good. Epidemics were unknown; their out-door life, freely ventilated lodges, and frequent change of residence, promoted health. Such diseases as they were subject to resulted chiefly from exposure endured in quest of food, or more violent causes, as intertribal wars were constant, and slaves lived by the mercy of the master or died at his whim.

For such ills as they endured they had no rational remedies. Sickness was generally attributed to some

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