

17th Dec. 1908.

Bishop of Algona, -5-

and by the written statement of the Deputy Superintendent dated June 10th, 1908, in which he says: "It seems clear that Sault Ste Marie is not a proper place for such an institution as the Shingwauk Home, not particularly on account of the proximity to the town but because there is such a small quantity of arable land that the farm cannot be conducted to advantage, and the Indian children, who mostly come from a distance where agriculture is generally practised, have no proper instruction. I am in correspondence now with the Shingwauk Home Committee on this subject."

It scarcely needs an expert to give an answer to the question whether, in place of the language being one-sided and inaccurate, it is fair and accurate and should lead to the conclusion that with such surroundings the school cannot deal fairly in the most important subject of education - that is - agriculture.

(7) The other instance that you give of my "one-sided and inaccurate representation" is that I spoke of your "schools having accommodation for one hundred pupils and having not much more than half their number"; and you add the statement that "thereby I was implying that we cannot obtain more". I did not say whether you could or could not obtain more pupils or to what cause the half filled school was to be traced. I simply stated the fact, as appeared in the statistics given, which I still think is well worthy of the consideration of anyone dealing with this matter. You state in another part of your letter dealing with the schools only half filled: "This point has been answered over and over again. The cause is not our inability to obtain more pupils but our lack of funds to maintain them". You further say as to "the expenses: This I think might and should be somewhat lessened". It would seem to me that there is no doubt but that the expenses should and might be lessened. The report shows that you had on your roll for the past year seventy, with a staff of twelve, which would, possibly, man your school for a full attendance. It would seem to me not to be a difficult matter to have such advice on this subject as would satisfy you upon the question of lessening expense and show in what manner this might be done. This might be a solution of your difficulties in connection with the over-expenditure.

(8) You further say in connection with the filling of the school -- (a) "That it is about ten miles from the nearest Church of England Reserve; (b) That we have no Indians in the vicinity to attend the day school; (c) that as to the further question about the increasing difficulty of getting