

to be made from time to time for both boys and girls, and as most of the girls are small and therefore incapable of assisting in that line, we have to do all the sewing ourselves and would find it impossible to do it without a machine.

If it were possible for me to do so I should buy it myself, but I cannot furnish the amount as I must engage a nurse for my own two children while I give my time to the Indian children, and Mr. Moore says he cannot assist in the matter but would like to have the machine.

Work Among the Indians of Portage la Prairie.

The following interesting paper was prepared by Miss Walker, and read at the annual meeting of the Brandon Presbyterial W. F. M. S. As it not only describes in detail the work in the Portage la Prairie school and for the Indians in that vicinity, but touches upon general questions connected with the education and Christianization of our North-West Indians, the Board has decided to publish it for the encouragement of the various branches :—

“To tell of this work to our friends in the East is much easier than here. Why it should be, we cannot explain ; unless it is because the worst side of Indian life is seen here, and it is more difficult for you to believe the good side. But *there is a good side*, and we too often forget this. We judge from what we see in the everyday life of the Indian who roams about our streets, not taking the trouble to think that it is the worst Indian who idles about ; and he is a fair example of the truth of the old proverb, ‘Satan finds work for idle hands to do.’ The Indian who understands that it is his duty to support his family is never found wasting his time about the streets, or going from house to house asking help. We do not think a common tramp a fair specimen of the white man, nor do we think it a wise plan to help such tramps. Then why should we be ready to think that all Indians are just as useless as the ones who make a practice of coming to our doors asking aid ? And the sooner we refuse to help the strong who come to us in this way, the better for the rising generation. Here there are some who need such help as can be given them in this way ; but, if a little discretion is used, it can