

## THE INDIAN WORK.

### REPORT OF THE McDOUGALL ORPHANAGE AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

This year has been one of peculiar experiences in the history of our school, because of death, disease and desertion. We began the year with very few pupils, and as our quarters had been small and very uncomfortable during the past, and now the prospect of larger and more comfortable accommodation had dawned upon us, we concluded to not look for or receive any more pupils until the new building should be completed. This, largely through the persevering and kind efforts of Mr. Reid, the Indian Commissioner, was accomplished, so that in January we moved into the handsome and comfortable building we now occupy. Immediately upon opening the New Home our number of pupils ran up from nine to forty-two, and then our staff became too small and we were compelled to engage an assistant to the Principal, some one who could at times take charge of and work with the boys at the various occupations around the Home and on the farm.

In May, Mr. and Mrs. Youmans, who had held the position of Principal and Matron for the last five years, decided to leave this work, and it was not until the first of July we succeeded in securing the services of Mr. and Mrs. Butler, who are now Principal and Matron. In the interim the assistants, Miss McKie and Mr. Graham, had their hands full. Miss Gussie McDougall kindly went to their help, and remained with them until the new Principal came.

In the past we had too small a staff, and all honor is due to Mr. and Mrs. Youmans and Miss McKie for the manner in which they labored under great disadvantage. Now we hope because of Government help, and also trusting to your continued aid and generosity, to enlarge our staff from three to five. We expect a Miss Whitelaw to come to us on the first of October and take the position of teacher, and thus with better accommodation and with more help we expect to do very much better work in the future, not that we have any reason to discount the past in any sense, for in great poverty and with comparatively little help, we began and kept on through the years, and had it not been for the noble help given to us by your Society, we should have been in great straits.

We still have a debt of \$2,814.36, and while we are steadily acquiring stock and implements and property, yet this does not cancel the debt. During the last three years in which we have had a surplus on income as against expenditure, we reduced our debt from \$4,679.08 to \$2,814.36, and it was only by the strictest economy that we created a surplus, as we felt the burden of debt and wished to be free again.

Under the circumstances I have had personally to assume all the responsibility, and this has been a constant source of trouble and worry to my family and work, and I trust that until this debt is wiped out your Committee will graciously see fit to keep us under your patronage.

Thanking you for past sympathy and financial support, and praying for God's blessing upon your work generally, I am, yours faithfully,

JOHN McDOUGALL.