

SASKATCHEWAN.

WE are mournfully apprehensive this number of the "Notices" will contain the last letters ever written by our devoted and beloved missionary, the Rev. George McDougall. Though no information has been received at the Mission Rooms up to the time of writing these lines, yet, by intelligence from an officer in command of the Military Police Force at Fort McLeod, and two of its private members in letters to their friends, there is before the Committee the sad probability that he perished in a storm between Morleyville and Fort McLeod, the last week in January 1876. As much interest is manifested just at this time respecting the missions to the North-West, we occupy a large portion of this number with letters recently received from that territory, merely observing it is much to be regretted that the new-born zeal of these Episcopalian apostles, referred to by brother G. McDougall, could not find localities and communities of Pagans in such an extensive country, upon which to bestow their authorized blessings, without invading the long-occupied fields of "other men's labours."

From the Rev. G. MCDUGALL, dated Morleyville, Bow River, Rocky Mountains, December 23rd, 1875.

I have frequently conversed with you and also with other leading members of our Mission Board, as to the practicability of establishing an Orphan House for the destitute children of the Plain tribes. The stringent state of the money market, and the changes then taking place in our Church organization, combined to make our worthy officials very cautious about embarking in any new scheme; but, though nothing formal was done, I received great encouragement from not only members of our section of the Christian Church, but as you will see by the attached list, from Christian ladies and gentlemen both in Great Britain and America.

In England, the Rev. Dr. Punshon earnestly recommended the Orphanage; and had I been at liberty to have taken his advice, and remained in Britain during the summer, I have no doubt but that a large sum could have been obtained. I was greatly indebted to our own Dr. Taylor, a

gentleman who has a practical knowledge of the sad condition of the western natives. The princely gifts of dear friends both at home and in the Dominion are gratefully acknowledged. For their information I would just state that the object for which their gifts were obtained will be put in practical operation as soon as possible; a beautiful location has been selected on the Playground River, west of Fort McLeod, a spot well adapted for an Indian settlement. Next spring we hope to commence the erection of buildings, and at once open a school. Had we now accommodation for fifty scholars, more than that number could be collected from the Blackfeet, while both the Crees and the Stoneys have numbers of little orphans hanging on to their camps.

To the ladies of Montreal, Kingston, and Toronto, we tender our grateful acknowledgments for the clothing so generously provided. I