

# Our Forest Children.

Vol. 1. No 6.

SHINGWAUK HOME.

August, 1887.

ANY NUMBER OF

## Copies Sent Gratis

to those who will interest themselves in the educating and christianizing of the

## 25,000 Indian Children

of schoolable age scattered throughout our country.

### At a Standstill.

A BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE PRESENT POSITION OF THE INDIAN HOMES AT SAULT STE. MARIE.

I make no fresh appeal for funds, but I ask you kindly to spare a few moments to read through carefully, and I hope sympathetically, the following notes:

1.—In June 1884 we had 32 boys, 22 girls, total 54: In June 1885 we had 43 boys, 21 girls, total 64: In June 1886 we had 47 boys, 23 girls, total 70: In June 1887 we had 53 boys, 27 girls total 80.

Our homes were never in a more hopeful and prosperous condition than in this summer of 1887.

2.—The location of branch or receiving homes is not yet definitely decided on, so many different contingencies having to be considered, but we hope, if the way opens, to have two or more of them. Towards the receiving home at Elkhorn Manitoba, we have \$2,000 in hand, and the offer of a free grant of land. We want to build another at Banff, among the Rocky Mountains, and another in the neighborhood of Sarnia.

3.—We had very much hoped that ere this something would have been done towards enlarging the Shingwauk Home. Our increasing numbers require it and we desire to carry out our plan of making it a large central Protestant institution for Indian children.

4.—Everything just now as regards our Homes is at a complete standstill.

5.—We have been overdrawing our resources, resting in the hope of a Government grant and liberal gifts from our friends to set all this new work on foot and these hopes having failed we are now obliged to retrench.

6.—I am obliged to part with my Assistant Superintendent, being unable to pay his salary, and must reduce the number of my pupils to about 40 boys and 20 girls. At the beginning of the year our Maintenance Fund was overdrawn \$667, and now shows a deficit of \$1,400;

7.—We therefore sink back into the position we were in about 5 years ago; and all our prospects of enlargement and extension seem to be for the present blighted.

8.—A question forces itself to my mind. How is it that in the United States, notwithstanding all that has been said of their cruel and unjust treatment of the Indians, they have some 32 large Institutions for Indian children, notably the Carlisle Institution in Pennsylvania for 600 pupils, which receives \$80,000 a year from the United States Government, and \$10,000 a year from the United States public?

9.—And another question forces itself upon me. How is it that our Canadian government has within the last few years erected an Indian Institution at a cost of \$25,000, near Calgary in the N.W. for the Roman Catholics, and another Indian Institution, at a cost of \$25,000, at Fort Qu'Appelle for the Roman Catholics, and is about to build another Institution for Indian girls at the same place for the Roman Catholics, and last year gave \$4000 towards rebuilding the Roman Catholic Institution on Manitoulin Island, and yet has no money to spare for the Shingwauk