

up and join the Indians of the north in fighting? *He has reduced them at the present time to that state that in the case of one Indian (I am prepared to prove this and to give the name of the man too), within two months seven of his children died because they had not got the necessaries of life.* I tell you what I know to be a fact. The Indians on the File Hills reserve believe that if one of their number falls sick there is no use in trying to make him get well, they have not sufficient nourishing food and they must die.

REPLY.

With reference to the report that the File Hill Indians were starving to death, an extract is submitted from a letter dated the 15th February, 1886, from *Dr. Edwards*, whose name has been so unwarrantably used in this matter. After visiting the File Hill Indians, he wrote as follows :

I never before saw them in a better physical condition. Out of over 400 Indians I only found seven cases of sickness. *I found the statement so positively made by Mr. Jackson at Fort Qu'Appelle, that seven children in one family in the File Hill Reserve had died in two months, of which statement he then said he had absolute proof, to possess the quality of most of his revelations—a slight amount of truth with a vast amount of error.* The truth is one child had lately died and had been buried, and according to Indian custom the mother had given away her clothes, and clad in the worst possible garments, in company with the father and an additional squaw, had gone to Fort Qu'Appelle, and thus the story of their destitution had originated. There was no proof that the Indians had been frozen.

The statement that the Indians of that Reserve were starving is absolutely false. I found the rations regularly and sufficiently distributed, and everywhere I saw only signs of plenty and contentment. Powder and shot had been given out, and in nearly every house visited there was evidence that in addition to the bacon and flour there was a plentiful supply of rabbits.

My visit was such that I cannot in too strong language declare the statements lately made at Fort Qu'Appelle relating to these Indians to be maliciously false.

CONCLUSION.

The examination of Mr. Cameron's speech is now ended, and it does not become necessary to tell the reader what the results of that examination have been. It was affirmed at the outset that a Member of Parliament, debating any public question, ought to consider that question solely on public grounds, that he should cite all the facts bearing on the subject within his knowledge, and that he