

OUR FOREST CHILDREN



AND WHAT WE WANT TO DO WITH THEM

VOL. III.

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No. 1.

OUR FOREST CHILDREN

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF
INDIAN EDUCATION AND CIVILIZATION.

COPIES SENT GRATIS
TO THOSE WHO WILL INTEREST THEMSELVES IN THE WORK.

Too Crowded.

UR work, under God's blessing, is extending—extending in every sense of the word. We have more to do, more to think about, more to write about. Our little four-page paper is becoming too small for us. We cannot crowd into its limited space one-quarter of the matter with which we would like to fill it every month. We want to tell, first of all, all that is to be told about our institutions for Indian children; of the efforts that are being made both by ourselves and others throughout the length and breadth of Canada, for the training in white men's ways and the leading to the foot of the cross, of the ignorant and ill-cared-for children of the forest. We want to tell also of the self-denying labors of Missionaries, who are working among the Indians, both in Canada and in the States—for, are we not *all one* in our work for God? We want to tell how large is the field that is still left uncared for; of the need there is for more laborers to go out and reap the Lord's harvest fields. We want also to have space to introduce, from time to time, such interesting matter as we can collect, bearing on the history, traditions and languages of the various Indian tribes, the ancient inhabitants of this North American soil. We know of no other periodical in Canada that is undertaking this work. In the United

States there are numbers of good people championing the Indian cause; numbers of papers published in their interests, societies in operation for maintaining their rights; but in Canada we look in vain for anything of this kind. Not one paper is there, so far as we are aware, except our humble little FOREST CHILDREN, published in behalf of the Indians. No Canadian Association is looking after their interests; none but isolated and little-known Missionaries are caring for them, studying their languages, looking up their past history, and seeking to elevate them as a people. As we noticed in our February issue, the receipts for last year for OUR FOREST CHILDREN were \$200 less than our expenses. This has a little frightened us. The expense of getting up Summer and Christmas numbers has been considerable, especially the engraving of the sketches. We have just 1,000 subscribers at present to O.F.C. at 10 cents each—that means \$100 a year, and an immense amount of labor in keeping so many small accounts. Of the Christmas and Summer numbers, far more have been sent out gratis than have been paid for, hence our seeming losses. But we are not disposed to draw back. If the work is a right one, we must go on with it, and trust in Almighty God to open the way for us. We believe it is a right work to *try and establish one bright, illustrated, readable periodical to champion the Indian cause.* So we will go on with it. And this is what we propose to do: Instead of the Christmas and Summer numbers, we propose now to publish *monthly a sixteen-page illustrated magazine* on good toned paper, and to try to increase our subscribers to some thousands. But, to do this, we