

THE INDIAN HOMES IN SAULT STE. MARIE.

The following statement regarding the mission work in Algoma was sent to the Toronto Church papers, June, 1885.

"Our Annual Report for the past year is now in the hands of our supporters and I have also sent a number of copies to superintendents of other Sunday schools which are not at present assisting our work, in hope that they may begin to do so. We are very much in need at the present time of increased help, the reasons being (1) that our work is increasing and we have the prospect of a larger number of pupils than we have had for some years; (?) that within the last few years our funds have been falling off; (3) that after doing my utmost to keep up the work by my own individual exertions, I find it impossible to continue to do so, and have engaged an assistant superintendent, who will relieve me of a great deal of the detail of management, and enable me from time to time to travel around both among the Indians whose children we receive and our white friends to whom we look for support, both of which steps are necessary in order for our homes to prosper.

"I am glad to say that in response to my appeal our English friends are stirring themselves, and hope to be able to render some additional help; but I have always felt that it is to Canada I ought chiefly to look for the support of my Indian children, and I trust that more Sunday schools will be found to adopt our pupils, and provide for their maintenance, the charge being \$75 per annum, or if clothing is sent \$50.

"I want, if God will, to try and do far more for the Indians than has yet been done. I think these recent troubles in the North-West should stir people up to do more for the Christian training of young Indians. It were surely better to spend money in this than in fighting their poor ignorant parents. I am exceedingly glad to see that the rebels in the North-West were almost without exception either Roman Catholics or Pagans, and that the Protestant Indians refused to join them. Why are we leaving those North-West Indians almost entirely to Roman Catholic missionaries? Even here in Algoma the great bulk of the Indian population is Roman Catholic, and our Church of England missions are few and far between. Surely this is not as it should be. My friends throughout Canada know that I have been exerting myself on behalf of these poor Indians; twice my strength has failed; I have not received the support and help that I need. And now in the future, if God spare me, I want to do more. I want to add to our buildings here, and make this a large central Institution with accommodation for double the number of young braves than we can take at present, and I hope that other Institutions may one after another rise in the North-West which may in some way be affiliated with ours at Sault Ste. Marie. I want, in fact, if God afford me grace and strength, to do the same work for the Indian children of Canada and the North-West that Dr. Barnardo has been doing so nobly for the waifs and strays of England's great cities. I propose also to take a few white orphan boys into our Shingwauk Home. I think they will have a leavening effect upon our Indian pupils, induce them to speak more correctly in English, and perhaps inspire them with a little more ambition to get on in the world. I have taken two boys already at my own expense, just for three months, partly as an experiment, partly to save them from being placed in a Roman Catholic Institution. Will anyone relieve me of this expense, and support these white boys? Their mothers supply their clothing, so the cost is only \$50 per annum each. We have no orphan's home in Algoma, and there are many poor hard-worked widow women who would be glad to get their children into our Institution.

"My plans for this summer, if God will, are as follows:—Next week I start off to visit the Indians at Cape Croker, Parry Island, Christian Island, Spanish River, and Serpent River, and shall hope to bring some Indian children back with me to our Institution. On or about July 24th I propose a six week's trip to the North-West, the scene of the recent disturbances. I shall apply for a free pass on the C. P. R., and take three or four of my Shingwauk boys with me. We shall camp, and it will cost little. I want to see those Indians, and confer with the

missiona
middle
taking a
a young
interest

" I
God is n
anything
nothing
just unc
your re
deeply
of a boy

" P
No
increas
Homes.