

by the Rev. W. H. Halstead, a superannuated Methodist minister here. I think it will give all the ladies of the Board pleasure equal to our own.

Miss Fraser is visiting in Minneapolis and enjoying her holiday. I miss her, but will be glad to have her grow well and strong once more. I am alone at present, but just as soon as the workmen finish Mr. Wright will begin school. I gained a good deal during my holiday and enjoyed every hour of it.

A RESIDENT POINTS OUT IMPROVEMENTS AMONG THE SIOUX.

*Portage la Prairie, August 13, 1896.*

Twenty years ago, when we first came to Portage la Prairie, no one seemed to care very much for the moral or material well-being of the Sioux Indians, who for many years had made this locality their home. Now what do we find? At the east end of our town, suitable and substantial buildings for the care and education of the Indian children and young people. These buildings are presided over, managed and cared for by Misses Laidlaw and Fraser, who have taken a heartfelt and prayerful interest, not only in the children, but also in the adults. About three miles from these buildings, in the woods by the side of the river, the Indians have secured a reserve, largely by their own efforts. This reserve is divided into family plots, through the midst of which runs a straight street. In the centre of the reserve is located the neat and well-furnished church. Here the young ladies mentioned conduct Sabbath service, and on week days often gather Indian women for instruction and encouragement in domestic matters.

To-day Mr. E. Brown, who takes much interest in the good work, asked me to attend a funeral on the reserve. At 4 o'clock Indian men, women and children assembled in their church for the solemn service. A thoughtful and devout feeling was manifest in all present. After a few words of prayer, a suitable hymn, in Sioux, was sung, led by the teacher and matron of the school. Then was read in English John xv, and afterwards in Sioux by one of the Indians. Then we had reading of the burial service, with remarks, interpreted by another Indian; after that, singing in Sioux followed by prayer. Then we had a solemn procession to the grave, the first one made on the church lot. The whole service was engaged in by the Indians in a most solemn manner. David Ross and wife seemed to feel deeply the death of their little girl.

Now these Indians have a church home and a burial home, and also a home for each family tepee, and by God's blessing much good will follow. The two Christian young women mentioned are worthy of much praise for their good work, and no doubt have our Saviour's approval, for He has said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these ye have done it unto Me." I trust they will continue to enjoy the sympathy and help of their Church, and especially of the ladies of the Presbyterian Missionary Society, and of all who have the well-being of the Indians at heart.

W. H.

We have not space for matter on the New Hebrides, the subject for November. Much helpful information may, however, be found in the last Annual Report of the F. M. Committee, copies of which may be obtained from Mrs. Shortreed, and also in the September Record.