

things. God may have greater things in store for us, if we are only faithful to the work. Both with old and young it is up-hill work; and in one aspect of it we have no greater obstacle to contend with than the liquor traffic, by which we are every now and then annoyed. It is something to be alarmed at to have a lot of drunken Indians pushing their way into every room in one's house, but we are thankful that most of them have sense enough to keep away from our house when they get liquor.

When will the Canadian Government be able to protect us from this evil? The children are for the most part quick tempered and impatient of correction; at home they are under no control, for Indians think it the height of cruelty to correct a child. Our only confidence in the work is that God can remove mountains of difficulty, and make his cause to prosper amidst every sort of hindrance.

#### WHAT WE NEED.

I have thus sketched the work that has been begun, and the objects that are contemplated. It is for the Church to say whether the mission is to be carried out as thus commenced. When I entered upon the work, it was with the full expectation that I would be joined by one or two additional missionaries as soon as a commencement would be made. It was frequently declared on the floor of the Synod that were a mission to the *heathen* actually entered upon, there would be no lack of funds. Now, the Saskatchewan Mission is essentially a mission to the *heathen*; some professing Christians are benefited by it, but our attention is given to the heathen in particular. One additional missionary is essential to the carrying out of the work. Had there been two missionaries from the commencement, one of them might have given particular attention to the language of the people, but my occupations have been so multifarious and distracting that it has been utterly impossible for me to make the language a study, so that I am still under the necessity of employing an interpreter—not by any means the most satisfactory means of communicating with the people. The Church must consider that, so long as I am the only missionary, one part or other of the work must be neglected. Besides, it ought not to be forgotten that—although through the kind favour of God—I have enjoyed almost uninterrupted health since I came here, I may be laid aside by sickness at any time, and in such a case what would become of the mission?

It is true that the Mission has already cost the Church a considerable amount of money. By a statement of the treasurer, I see that \$12,893.93 has been spent on it—the payments extending over part of five years, or to September 1st, 1869; but an unintentional injustice has all along been done by omitting to publish the assets along with the expenditure, although these have been furnished to the Committee annually. Now it is a fact that the property of the Mission, at a moderate valuation, amounts to nearly two-thirds of the whole sum that has been expended on it,\* and I can safely say that there is not one bit of useless or unnecessary property here. There is a good deal still required, though not by any means of such an expensive description as much that we already possess. Particularly, we want a simple log building to serve as church and school house, and some additional house accommodation for children; we should have a teacher specially for Cree, who would take the oversight of the children out of school, as well as during school hours. With these and a second Missionary we might go on with the work with a measure of comfort, and with good hope of success.

It is true there are not teeming millions here to be gathered into Christ's Kingdom, but a few thousands of a remnant scattered over the wide plains who have souls to be saved. But besides seeking the salvation of the scattered ones, the Mission may be instrumental in preparing the way for thousands of population yet to come.

\* NOTE.—Including the last draft made (\$807 54), the whole sum paid has been \$13,701.47, and the assets at this date are £1719 2s. 9d., or about \$8,903.