

INDIAN SCHOOL AT MEDICINE HAT.

It is a most difficult thing pleading for anything that is not in actual working order, because one cannot describe results or progress. *About £100 is still needed* before the work can be commenced. I have appealed in Canada with little success, and I am afraid that little, if anything, more can be expected from the Church in Eastern Canada. I am, therefore, forced to again bring before English Church people the very urgent need that exists for aid. The following are the reasons:—

(1) The building for the proposed School was half erected five years ago. It would be very wrong to allow it to go to ruin, and so waste some £500 already expended. I went over the river last week to visit it. The fabric is getting worse. Some of the concrete work is commencing to fall from the walls. If this goes on for long, the place will be useless, and money already put into it gone.

(2) The Government has promised that when the place is ready, it will give 70 dols., or £14 a year, per head for each child. The place will hold from thirty-five to forty children, so our running expenses will be fairly assured.

(3) It is desired to keep the School entirely under Church control. The lands and building are vested in the Synod. The Government might assist in finishing it if it were given up to the Indian Department, but this is undesirable, as the Church would have really little voice in what was done.

(4) Great opportunities exist for the development of the work, owing to the place possessing great natural resources, more than can be found elsewhere in the Diocese. Coal can be purchased at 1.50 dols. a ton, from mines three miles up the river. It is proposed to have a team and wagon for the School, and so all fuel can be hauled at cost at the mines. Good building stone is found also up the river. Some of the boys would be taught the trade of a stonemason. Thus extra buildings could be erected at small cost by the School itself. The land (8 acres) on which the School is built slopes down to the river's edge, while there are 140 acres behind and adjoining the School premises, which are School property which can be used for the purposes of a pasture. A large garden in front of the School is ready for cultivation, and can be irrigated either from a spring or from the river, and all necessary vegetables, &c., grown for consumption at the School. With all these advantages the School might be made a great centre for Indian work *if only it could be started.*

(5) I am afraid that the S.P.C.K. grant of £60 will be lost, as it is conditional upon our raising the balance of the amount required to complete the place.

(6) The local needs of the Indians encamped close at hand are very pressing. The School would take in both boys and girls, the preference being given to the children from the camps near at hand. The number of tepees or tents are increasing weekly. The U.S.A. Government are sending back over the boundary a large number of