

NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

Encouragement in the Work.

FROM MISS JOHNSTON.

Alberni, B. C., Sept. 25, 1894

It was indeed very thoughtless of us not to let you know how safely we were kept during those trying times to which you referred. But just at the time all communication was cut off, and afterwards we thought you were kept better informed than we were in this little out-of-the-way place. It is very gratifying to us to know how many kind friends we have. So many letters of enquiry and sympathy have reached us since, since then, that we cannot help feeling thankful to the Giver of all good.

We have had a lovely summer, so far as weather is concerned ; hardly any rain ; so different from last summer, for it rained nearly all the time. Small fruits were very plentiful this season. Our vegetables are good and we had great quantities of raspberries, red and white ; gooseberries ; currants, red, white and black. We were very glad to have them, although they call for a good deal of extra labour.

School began on the 14th of August, with about the usual number of pupils. Miss Minnes enjoyed her holidays with friends at Alberni and was quite ready for work again. I could not take holidays because I did not want to let our babies go back to what we took them from, so I kept five of them here all through the time allowed, which is six weeks.

The week school closed, preserving began, so with picking, preparing and preserving fruit and caring for seven of a family, besides occasional visitors, I had a good deal more to do than I should have undertaken with the help of a child of eight years.

Two of our girls, Eva and Jean, are working in the paper mill at \$4.00 per week. I would have preferred something more of a domestic nature for them but was very glad to see