

OUR FOREST CHILDREN,

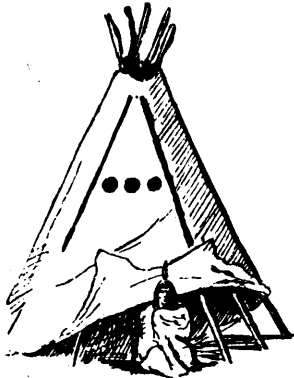
PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF INDIAN EDUCATION AND CIVILIZATION.

VOL. IV., No. 6.]

SHINGWAUK HOME, SEPTEMBER, 1890.

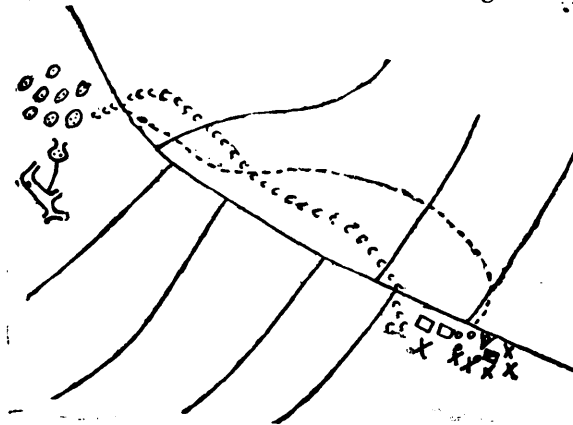
[NEW SERIES, NO. 16.]

Picture Writing.



ALTHOUGH the Indians in their native state had no idea of the art of writing, they used to have a clever way of recording events by means of rudely drawn pictures. The one of which a tracing is here given, was drawn by a Hidatsa Indian, named "Lean Wolf;" and it

describes a little trip which he made on foot from Fort Berthold to Fort Buford, Dakota, to steal a horse from the Dakotas encamped there. The head of a man with a wolf attached to it means "Lean Wolf;" the little irregular circles close by are the earth lodges of the Hidatsa Indians, and the spots in them are the posts supporting the roof. This is the Indian village at Fort



LEAN WOLF'S MAP.

Berthold. The dotted line shews Lean Wolf's footprints, going on his journey from Fort Berthold to Fort Buford, the little square marks at this latter place are the Government buildings, the crosses are the teepees of the Dakotas. Where a cross and a circle are united, it means that a Dakota is married to a Hidatsa. Where a cross and a square are united, it means that an Indian is married to a white person. The black

lines represent rivers; and the hoof marks imply that Lean Wolf was successful in stealing the horse, and that he rode it back by a shorter way than he went to Fort Berthold.

Letter to the Sunday Schools.

MY DEAR CHILDREN,—There is not very much going on here now that nearly all the boys and girls are away for the holidays. Bathing and berry picking are the chief amusements. The wet weather has generally put a stop to pic-nics, or anything of that sort. We had a bazaar for the benefit of the Rev. R. Renison, a few weeks ago. There was a nice stall full of work, a great deal of which had been done by the members of the "Onward and Upward Club," during the weekly meetings. The Indian girls had made aprons, frocks, baskets, dressed dolls, etc. The boys had devoted their energies to wood-carving and basket-making. The bazaar was held on one of the little Islands in front of the Home, and the different stalls (refreshment, etc.,) were dotted about here and there. They were prettily draped and decorated, and when the island was lighted up in the evening with Japanese lanterns and torches, it all looked very picturesque and pretty; but, unhappily, it had rained heavily the night before, and even a little that morning, so the general atmosphere was decidedly damp, and not many people came. However, we cleared expenses and had a nice little sum left to send to Mr. Renison. The lazy inmates of the Home were very pleasantly awakened the other morning, by the band playing a new and very pretty tune, at some little distance from the House. They had been asked to join an excursion party, who were going down the river for the day, and so were up bright and early and giving their friends a morning serenade before they left. Of course they are very short-handed now, as most of the best players have gone home; but as school begins again the middle of August, the band and everything else will soon be in full swing. Somebody asked little Zosie (one of the boys that Mr. Wilson took with him to England) how he liked it all; his answer was, "I was getting a little tired of it." He said the only thing that he wanted in England, and