

tion of the Indians in Canada, have never extended their labours beyond the immediate vicinity of the European Settlements, and the distant countries to the north-west remain entirely neglected.

The Hudson's Bay Company have, indeed, always been disposed to promote education among the natives: but their attention has been chiefly directed to the children of half-blood, reared about their Factories, in consequence of the connection of their European servants with Indian women. Though the Company have been liberal, in affording opportunities of instruction to these children, there has been no systematic plan adopted for the purpose; and as it has been left to the discretion of their chief officers, the object has not always been equally attended to. More might certainly have been accomplished, if there had been a separate fund specifically set apart for the purposes of education.

Of the Indians who inhabit these territories, very few have any knowledge of agriculture. In general, they have no fixed habitations, and subsist entirely by hunting and fishing. Those who inhabit the plains to the westward of Lake Winipic, live, for the most part, in great abundance, but a supply of provisions depending on the chase never can be regular. In the most plentiful districts there are seasons when the supply fails, and such