

house, I started a Sabbath-school for the children, young men, and women. The school is still going on, and is held in the Mission House. I can now explain a great many things to the children in their own language, which is not very difficult to learn. The winter evenings I spent over Lacombe's French Dictionary and Grammar in the Cree language. This is an invaluable book to us, for without it I could have done very little in the absence of any one whatever to give information in English. I tried the syllabic characters invented by the devoted Evans, but though serviceable to any one who has the Cree words upon his tongue, it is not the best guide to one studying the language. This is because the Cree scholar does not read or pronounce the words just as the characters always indicate; but he has often to say the word which he sees the syllables do not fully or really pronounce. Our Indians who read their Cree Hymns and Bibles have no difficulty in reading from the characters.

Next Sabbath I am to commence service in the chief's house, and hope to continue them without an interpreter. The chief, Sampson, reads in Cree, the Indians all sing in Cree, in which I can join them, and I shall say what I can to them from time to time, trusting and praying to God, that soon I may have little trouble in talking to them freely.

I have received no help from the Indians in building; they want wages here equal to that of white men, so it would not pay to employ them for speedy and pressing work. The shingles, nails, lumber, freight on nails and shingles, the windows, etc., the hired help, etc., run the expense up to about \$350 on the Mission House. The dimensions are 18 x 24 inside.

We have, as yet, no school-house or place of worship. I am ready to get the building for school and worship; but where is the assistance coming from? Even a supply of provisions would be something, as I think I could secure Indian help to flat the timber, saw lumber, and freight shingles by feeding them. It is often more than I can do to feed myself and wife; for Edmonton is sixty miles away, and in building the house I could not get the supplies to last over a month at a time.

The Missionary Society will do what it can, but unless more than \$100 is granted for building, I will have very little encouragement from it. However, I shall devote my time, as soon as I can, to another building, expecting the Lord, whose work it is, will answer our prayers, and secure aid to erect a school-house and Church combined.

Our hands are full of work,—and that of every kind for these Indians—for their intellects, their souls, their morals, and their bodies. I feel there is no work superior to this work, no matter what notions or beliefs certain people may have about it. May we ever be as little influenced as now, by the curse which the Indian Missions in Ontario have to fight against—whiskey!

E. B. GLASS.