

It is said that an Indian is susceptible of being charmed by the melodies of music. This has been amply proved by the young Indians of our school. They are familiar with nearly all the hymns and pieces contained in the *Sunday School Harp*, and many others. This, also, has been a power; its influence has been felt by the heathen of the plains, for whom our children assemble to recite their lessons, and to sing those anthems. They who have never attended the preaching of the Word have been involuntarily drawn around the group of school children. Others also, who are not professed heathens, have been affected by what they have heard and seen,—even by men who wear the *gown* and carry the *crosses* in their belts, professing to be teachers of the better religion, have been made ashamed of the falsity of their doctrines, whose names have been exposed before their own dupes by the manner Wesleyan missionaries and teachers taught their people and their people's children.

All this has been effected by the diligence and untiring effort of our valuable teacher, and most esteemed friend, Mr. A. J. Snyder. His work has truly been a work of faith and labor of love, and displayed patience in the hope of advancing the children committed to his charge in the ways of religion and truth. The felt responsibility that has been the motive-cause of his success in carrying on the school,—was his religious belief in the value of the human soul. He felt that souls were committed to his charge when he first entered to perform the duties of his position. His dependance was upon the grace of God, without whose blessing no work is good, or strong, or holy; hence the blessing of God has appeared and prospered the work of his hands.

But now this young man has given us notice of his intention of leaving in the month of May, to return to Canada on a visit to his parents, who are now far advanced in years. It will be a sad day for our children when he leaves the school, for they will lose their teacher. No one at their head will lead the Friday afternoon prayer meeting. As he has not only endeavored to advance them in acquiring knowledge which may be useful for this life, but he has also endeavored to lead them in the knowledge of salvation;

hence some of our children are endeavoring to serve God truly, and some even have felt the powers of the world to come. Now, having had the advantage of such instructions for our children, when deprived of it we shall feel the more keenly for the want of the same.

During the time our teacher has been with us at this Mission he has submitted himself to any privations, which many from the civilized world would not do; but he has done it because he considered he was pursuing the path of duty he owed to God, and to the souls committed to his charge.

And let me say again, dear Doctor, that the scholastic department of this Mission has been the helping cause of its prosperity, and given us a name among the missions of the Saskatchewan,—and shall we fall back to obscurity again? I thank you, dear Doctor, for the kind remarks you made for the poor incumbent of Whitefish Lake Mission, which to him has been a source of encouragement and thankfulness, and which will stimulate him to labor on at the command of the Great Master, and offer all his works to Him. But to lose one of his helpers will be of no small discouragement, but I know there is many a hearty well-wisher for the prosperity of Missions, and who do all in their power to assist the interests of those Missions,—even those in this far-off land; and there may be also many a young man who now feels the love of God in his soul, and feels, too, that he owes to God and his fellow-man a debt that can only be paid by consecrating his time and talents to God's service. Such an one is wanted here; and will any one volunteer to undertake our School? Should any one do so,—that is, to come as a Mission teacher, he would be required here by the 1st of August; and please tell him not to forget his *Sunday School Harp*, and other music books which he may possess.

I am waiting from head-quarters of the District for the commencement of our Missionary Meetings, which are to be held at the several appointments of the District during this winter. A full report of their proceedings, and some other items of our sayings and doings, will be forwarded by the March packet, and in the meantime let me pray for a continued interest in your prayers.