

young men to accomplish, then the bet would be delivered. But the chief demanded that he be allowed to visit the Governor at Regina to make complaint of the harshness of the agent. He was informed in reply that he could have a pass to leave the reserve for that purpose whenever he wanted it. Thus ended, after a struggle of some three hours, this affair. The writer was much impressed with the skill and outspokenness of these prairie diplomats.

#### THE AGENTS.

A special opportunity was thus given of seeing the difficulties of the agents, and of reflecting how trying the situation must have been during the rebellion of two years ago. The former agent, Mr. Williams, was hardly successful with these File Hills Indians. The writer, however, never saw him, and simply speaks from hearsay. The present agent, Mr. W. F. Wright, has been known to the writer for several years. He and his amiable wife will be kind to the Indians. Several instances were incidentally come upon where in cases of the aged and sick they had followed out their humane instincts and given relief. Were all the Indian agents as charitable and thoughtful of their poor wards as the same people would be towards the poor and suffering in town and city, how greatly would the dying Indians be blessed. And why not? The agents and their families are not merely Government officials. They may be angels of mercy to the unfortunate perishing redmen. Agent Wright held his own in the contest with quiet firmness and good temper. The journey was resumed to Qu'Appelle, and after further painful associations with the "shag-ganappi" the Fort was reached.

#### CONCLUSION.

Our wanderings among the Indians are ended for the present. We have seen them in every variety of circumstance this summer. They are very degraded in most cases still. But much more attention is being paid to them, both physically and mentally, than formerly. Well directed effort has borne its fruit already. There is hope for the Indian, but it is chiefly through dealing with the young. The day school is a failure. Boarding schools alone can accomplish the work. If both the Government and the churches give their best thought to the subject the poor Indian may in time be civilized and christianized.

THE END.