

CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

Industrial School soon to be Opened.

CÔTÉS' RESERVE, KAMSACK P.O., Dec. 18th, 1888.

REV. G. A. LAIRD.—Your kind remembrance came to hand last mail. I will endeavour now to write a little more fully. And, first, a word about the clothing. The two additional boxes from London and two bales from Toronto arrived in good order some little time ago. We have distributed a good portion of the contents, and have succeeded in supplying the needs of the people for the present. The ladies of the Auxiliaries and the Mission Bands in connection with the London Presbyterian Society have our sincere thanks for coming so generously to our aid. I cannot begin to enumerate all the useful articles they have sent. Parcels from Hamilton Presbytery were also included.

Our new school building is not quite ready. Our hope now is that it will be finished early in January; we shall then be in a position, under more favourable circumstances to commence the special work for which it is intended, viz., the training of the children.

With regard to Sabbath services and week night prayer meetings, I am glad to be able to report that they continue to be well attended. All the people now within reach come regularly. At Two Creeks, the most backward of our stations, the improvement is perhaps more marked than at the others. When I commenced holding service there a little more than a year ago, the first thing I had to do each Sabbath was to go round and gather the people. Now they come promptly, so soon as we arrive in the village. Some of them, indeed, one woman in particular, would not come at all. But their prejudices are fast giving way, and I may add for the encouragement of the ladies, that the change in the case of the woman referred to, at least, is in large measure due to the gifts of clothing which she in common with the others have received.

At each regular service I have also a short service for the children. After the sermon I call the children to the front and have them sing one or two hymns, ask them a number of simple questions, get them to repeat in concert a few Scripture texts, and then have all present join in repeating the Lord's Prayer. This plan has several advantages. The people seem to enjoy the little service for the children, and as they themselves are only children in knowledge, they get the advantage of the