

## Progress at Crowstand.

CROWSTAND SCHOOL,  
KAMSACK P.O., N.W.T., Nov. 27, 1891.

MR. LAIRD.—We have been occupying our stone building since August. The increased accommodation which it affords makes the work much pleasanter, both for teachers and scholars. On the ground floor are two well-furnished classrooms, besides private rooms for the teachers, while the second and third flats afford sleeping accommodation for about fifty children. The dining and sewing rooms, kitchen, and boys' dormitory are in the building first erected.

There have been in the neighbourhood of sixty children in attendance for some time, but we have just sent fifteen of the larger ones to the Industrial School at Regina. This will reduce our numbers somewhat in the meantime, but their places will probably be filled before long with others. There is much room for encouragement, not only on account of the progress that the children have made in their lessons but on account of the regularity of attendance and, for the most part, their commendable deportment. Of course in such work there are many things to disappoint, but while this is the case there are sometimes pleasant surprises—little things happening from time to time calculated to encourage those engaged in the work.

Many of the children now speak and write English quite fluently. Their progress in reading, spelling, arithmetic, geography, grammar and singing is, on the whole, very satisfactory. They are obedient, and do a good deal of work cheerfully. Our hope is that many of them will fill useful positions either as house and farm servants or tradesmen, and perhaps one or two of the more ambitious ones may get positions as clerks in the Indian Department. Many of them will settle on the reserve among their own people, and we look forward to seeing them self-supporting, and occupying comfortable homes. The tone of society around us is gradually becoming elevated. The Indians are more self-reliant, more anxious to obtain work and do for themselves. Comparing things as they are now with my experiences the first winter I was on the reserve, there is certainly ground for going steadily forward.

I may mention that we are about opening a carpenter's shop under the superintendence of Mr. Wright, who has lately come