

## CHEERING WORDS.

Mr. J. Ansdell Macrae, Inspector of Protestant Indian Schools, has done not a little since his appointment to increase the efficiency of the schools under his care, and the committee and teachers take pleasure in acknowledging their indebtedness to him for many acts of kindly courtesy and for the consideration with which he discharges the often delicate duties of his office. Mr. Macrae's communications are not all of the tenor of the extracts given below, which is from a personal letter to the editor, but we have not received—indeed we have not asked—to publish the others: "Your teachers are out of competition for the bonuses given to *day school* teachers, and therefore cannot know how they stand in the line of educationalists. But the fact is, you have taken the lead in getting high class teachers and the result is showing very plainly. Miss Cameron has done more good in one year at Riding Mt. than other teachers had done in the same school in ten years. Morrison at Round Lake is most competent. The Misses Armstrong are capital in the school room, and Skene is a good teacher. I congratulate you on your selections for the school room, and shall mention Miss Cameron to the Dept. as the best day school teacher in the Northwest Superintendency."

## VANCOUVER ISLAND.

The Rev. J. A. McDonald, of Alberni, B. C., writes on Jan. 25th I have my sister Minnie and my friend Alex. McKee with me now. Both will help in the work indirectly by giving me all my time for study of the language and dealing with the Indians. We are waiting patiently to hear if anything has been done or will be done about starting a school for the Indians and asking for the Government grant. We have two boys with us at present and could get others: many of the children have gone with their parents to the Sound for sealing and will return next month. My sister thinks of opening a day school next month to see how the children will attend. We went down to the Opi-ches-haht village in fifteen minutes yesterday. It was like a day in spring, so mild and bright. We had twelve in attendance at the Sunday School and they have their lesson well learned both in English and Indian. The pronunciation is more difficult than Gaelic but I am getting my tongue around it and my ear accustomed to the sound. We received five quarters of S. S. lesson picture rolls from St. Andrew's Church, Victoria, as well as Christmas cards from friends in the east and illustrated S. S. papers, cards &c. from the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Scouler, of New Westminster, all of which are very useful, especially the lesson rolls.

The Birtle school has an attendance of thirty—as many as it can accommodate.