

are rather famous for appropriating what they have no right to. And yet we have had more enquirers from the Plain Indians than from our own Indians. Last week I baptized a man 23 years of age, a woman about 45 years of age, a boy 11 years of age, and a girl 8 years old, and also two infants, all from the plains. From the plains also we received a girl into the Mission last week. She is about 8 years of age; her mother is a widow, her grandfather is a very aged Indian, who had been here frequently, and appears to be an earnest enquirer; I hope he may fully find and follow the truth before he dies. Another girl has been left with us for the present, but the family are to settle here after returning from preparing provisions in the plains.

The boy who was baptized is one of those we expected to receive into the mission at this time, but as his cousins—who are also to be brought—could not come in now, it was thought best to defer his reception till they can come, that he might be less likely to feel lonesome, particularly as his sister was unwilling to be parted from her mother—it having been intended that she also should be left. It was the mother of that boy and girl who was baptized last week.

From the above you will see that we are not without some encouragement in our work. But it has not been all sunshine with us. The girl and boy who were left here on the 25th of Sept. last have been taken away from the mission by their mother, who is one of the most passionate women I ever saw, although she is a nominal Christian, and is able to read, having been taught at Red River Settlement. The boy, fearing correction for using bad language, ran off to his mother, who was living not far off, and when I went to fetch him home, I soon found that he had told her lies about the reason of his coming to her, and instead of sending the boy home with me, she came to the Mission in a rage, and would listen to no explanation, but denounced every one of us in no measured terms. The girl always avoided her mother as much as possible, fearing that she would take her away from us; she did so on this occasion, but the misguided woman came by stealth and seized her girl on the Sabbath before last; the child resisted. I heard of the circumstance, and fled to the rescue, when the woman drew a knife, and would have buried it in the body of her own child, had I not at once seized her hand, and called the schoolmaster to wrench the knife from her. Having released the girl from the grasp of her maddened mother, I took her aside, and asked her if she would rather go with her mother, or stay with us. She said she would go with her mother—no doubt fearing the consequences of further refusal; and as we have no means here of dealing in a legal way with such an outrage, I had no alternative but to let the girl go. Both of these children were learning very well, although they had been exposed from infancy to the very worst of influences.

From the scene just described our friends will see that it is not all pleasant and cloudless with us, and they will see the necessity of remembering us and our work in their prayers; and they will also see that however anxious we may be to receive children into the mission, it is necessary to exercise caution.

With Christian regards,

I am, Mr. Editor,

Yours most truly,

JAMES NISBET,