

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

Acknowledgments of Clothing.

FROM REV. HUGH MACKAY.

Round Lake, Whitewood P.O., Assa., Jan. 26, 1895.

Your kind letter has been received, but I delayed writing until we received the goods sent. We brought home the three boxes, two bales and one barrel the other day. The barrel came from Quebec and contained much that is valuable and useful to us. All that has been sent was suitable and very much appreciated. The piece of home-spun, from Salt Springs, is just what the poor old women required, you could not have sent anything more suitable. These old women hunt for rabbits. They set their snares in the brush and they find those skirts not easily torn, and they are warm. The old women are delighted with the goods.

Those dresses sent from Salt Springs, Nova Scotia, together with the other things contained in the box, tell of the interest taken by the workers of that place in our work. The made-up garments are a great help to Mrs. McKay. She had been kept very busy sewing; many nights the hum of the sewing machine did not cease until 10 p.m. The dresses are just the size required.

The blankets and quilts are now in use, and all reminding the poor Indian that there are many who have "a heart that can feel for a neighbour's woe."

I sometimes fear that I do not make known as plainly as I should the wants of the poor people about us. I know some will say: "Let them shift for themselves." "Let them exercise more economy, more forethought, more industry." "It only makes paupers of them to give them help." But after all, we find these poor people at our door starving; they are shivering with the cold; they are old and helpless. They live not upon the luxuries, but anything that will satisfy a craving appetite. And they are passing away one by one. Two weeks ago one of the poor old women you saw at Kewistahaw passed away. There have been several deaths in that band of those you saw that Sabbath afternoon. Six have passed away. Every one of these felt the kind hand and the sympathetic heart of the W.F.-M.S.