

in another room with Bishop Tache, who had just returned from Rome. They both came in, but Tache went out again. Riel came towards us. I arose and said, "Mr. Riel, we have called to get passes to leave the country." He became very angry and said, "if you wish to see Mr. Riel you will have to go five miles from here; I am the President. I will see that you do not starve for the next six weeks." He stamped his foot on the floor, went out and slammed the door behind him. I sat down but my hair remained standing. I did not wish to be his guest another six weeks. I think the clerk understood my feelings for he gave us passes to get out of the Fort. After we got through the gate I walked fast and so lightly I hardly felt my feet touch the ground. We went to see Dr. O'Donnell, who was in favor with Riel and next day he got us the passes, and on March 12 we left Winnipeg on our return journey with horse and sleigh.

On reaching Pembina the weather was stormy and snow deep and hard for horses to travel, so most of the party decided to wait till the weather became more favorable; but P. McArthur, J. Latimer and myself decided to push on. So we secured a dog sled on which we tied our robe, blankets, an axe, some pemmican, hard bread and tea. We also had a bottle of Painkiller, small flask of brandy, three tin cups tied to our belts in which to melt snow, some matches, and on snow shoes we pushed on, leaving the rest to follow later. We took turns at hauling the sled.

When near Grand Forks we saved the life of the American consul, Oscar Malmras, a small man, near-sighted, who was on his way by dog train from Winnipeg to St. Cloud. He became separated from his man and dogs by starting on foot while his man was hitching up. When he got to the trail he turned north instead of south. The train went south to overtake him and so left him behind. There came on an awful blizzard. We heard him call and found him nearly exhausted and wanted to lie down and sleep. We dug a bed in the snow, laid in it our robe and blankets, put him in, gave him a swallow of brandy and covered him up, and went on to Grand Forks. His man came back and found him by seeing a piece of the axe handle protruding through the snow, brought him to Grand Forks, where there was a log house and mail station. We all stayed to rest two or three days.

March 28—Arrived at Georgetown, stayed two days. Our party with horses, came up with us here.