

*From the Rev. Malcom Scott, Lesser Slave Lake, Athabaska, to the Secretary of St Matthew's Branch.*

"Your letter March 3rd with enclosed P. O. order has just reached me, for which I thank you. I do not think there will be any difficulty with the P. O. order, doubtless the H. B. Co. will accept it readily.

The bale you sent us last year will probably reach Vermillion during the week. The one you sent this year may arrive at the same time. I now thank you for the last. We had twenty children attending school during this year, sixteen of which were boarders. Owing to the non-arrival of your bale we were rather short of clothing, however we managed to pull through. For several reasons we were obliged to close our school earlier this year, partly because I was obliged to leave home, but chiefly because we had but little to feed them with.

The loss of our crop by the fire necessitated our depending on others for food, but the supply failed. We could not buy a sack of flour in Vermillion so we were obliged to disperse the children.

I am thankful to say that although there has been much sickness and death throughout this Diocese, we have had comparatively little of this at Vermillion; true, we had scarlet fever, but not of a severe type, and by God's good providence, with our strict precautions, we succeeded in keeping it out of the school. I have come to this place at our Bishop's call to meet in Synod, tho' the journey is a long and difficult one (400 miles, 300 of which was a hard paddle against a strong current as the Peace river was unusually high); it is a great pleasure to meet with our brethren after years of isolation. The Bishop has not yet arrived here, but boats are in sight out on the Lake, and so we expect him. I shall be taking home with me a helper in our work at Vermillion in the person of Miss Herbert, who is to become Mrs. Warwick. Please will you always send in the barrel the LETTER LEAFLET, not more than one copy of each number. It is quite as well to come thus, as we should not get it except once a year in any case under present mail regulations."

Bishop Corfe, of the English Mission in Seoul, Korea, writes that Mrs. Isabel Bird Bishop, the famous traveler, had arrived in that city and was staying with one of the missionaries, making preparations for her travels through Korea. The Bishop says: "At one time it seemed as if she would not be able to accomplish her object, so difficult was it for her to secure a competent interpreter. The few Koreans who can speak English shrank from the dangers involved in so long a journey, and in such unusual company. Mrs. Bishop will be the first woman to attempt an investigation of the unbeaten tracks of this country, and though I do not expect that she will encounter open hostility, the novelty of the expedition would present extraordinary obstacles to her obtaining Korean companions as interpreters, so abhorrent to the native mind is the notion of ladies being seen abroad."