

could only bring a part of my goods. The next day two more of our Indians left with a portion in a small canoe and the remainder had to wait nearly three weeks till I could send for it. I opened the school on the following Monday. The children could not understand anything I said, and I did not know one word of their language. I had to go outside to get wood to keep up the fire, and when I returned I found several of them crying; I suppose the others told them I was going for a stick to beat them. Not one knew all the letters in the alphabet, and only four could write any word. There were only four slates and no copy books. I had a saw, so I sawed two slates across the centre, thereby increasing the number to six. I commenced by setting copies of o's and i's, and taking hold of their dirty hands to guide them, giving about ten minutes to each, and then passing the slates on to those who were idle. You will think this uphill work and so it was. These out-of-the-way places require patience and perseverance, being about sixty-five miles north from Eagle River Station and forty-five miles north-west of Lac Seul, the nearest Missionary Reserve. When I spoke to the chief about going he said I should have to pay a man to go with me \$4 and rations, which I did. It was the chief's brother who went with me, the other Indians starting before us with the dogs.

I took bedding, snowshoes and provisions, which the Indian hauled on the toboggan. When we were going across one of the portages about ten miles distant, I stepped off the track and sprained my knee, for, it being a misty moon, we were not wearing our snowshoes. I did not take much notice of it at first, but after a while it began to pain and the Indian passed by, for previously I had taken the lead. By midday the Indian was out of sight and when I caught up he had the dinner ready and we were soon off again.

The sun being well up the snow became sloppy and more difficult to travel upon, but sometimes the bare ice on the lake could be seen, where the wind had swept the snow away, but towards three o'clock we came to deep snow, and so sloppy that I sank in every step often up to my knees, and over my feet in water. My snowshoes were with my overcoat on the toboggan, which, with the Indians, was out of sight, yet, I managed to keep the track.

By half past three o'clock I found it impossible to go any further, so crawled on to the land and happened to have some matches and made a fire, and laid down on some brush-wood, not knowing what God would do with me, no food, and light clothing, and snow everywhere to be seen.

After being there about an hour the Indians, who had looked behind, saw the smoke and guessed the consequences, and came back with the snow shoes for me. I had never put a pair on

before, started very well, but soon floundered about like a porpoise. I reached the place, however, at last, where he had left the toboggan, and we went on the land and stayed till morn.

About half past three, before it was light, he was up and ready to be off. I felt better for the rest, but told him to keep near, which he did not do, and before it was daylight I had difficulty in finding the track.

It was frozen hard, so better for walking. I kept on very well for three hours and then began to lag, and ultimately fell down on the track, being unable to go farther. I need not tell you I prayed earnestly for God's Divine assistance, and after a long while persevered and made another start, and after some time struggling, I dropped again, another struggle and eventually I reached the Hudson's Bay Company Post about nine p.m. I shall not soon forget the kindness of Mr. J. McKenzie, and his mother and sister.

Some Indians providentially came in with skins and Mr. McKenzie arranged with them to let me have three days to convey me back. The next morning about seven we started, five dogs hauling me on the toboggan. Towards about two p.m. the sun was so strong that the snow was too sloppy and the dogs could scarcely get along, so we went on the land and waited till eight p.m., when the snow had become frozen, and we proceeded onwards till midnight, when we lay down till morn. About six o'clock we started again. I only had three dogs this time, and about ten o'clock we parted company with the other Indians, and continued our journey until a little after mid-day, when we reached a small river, where the Indian had to purchase fish for the dogs, which took a long time, but it was a rest for the dogs. When we prepared to start he could only catch one dog, and after try vainly for a long time we started with the one. I had to hobble along. After going some distance we went on the land and made a fire and, in course of time, decoyed the dogs, and continued our course, but at slow speed, for the snow was very sloppy.

I continued on for a long time over the lakes and portages in this condition, sinking in the sloppy snow, with the snow shoes, at nearly every step, and often so deep that I had to tug several times to get my foot out, bringing many pounds of wet snow on the snowshoes, which were each four feet long and a quarter wide.

It was a mild night, no frost, so it would have been no advantage to stop. The dogs were so exhausted that the Indian had to attach a line on in front and pull the dogs and toboggan.

The last portage but one was very difficult, the track winding in and out amongst the trees, which were very thick and our only light being the reflection of the snow towards the midnight. Even the Indian had to look close at the trees to find where the bark was chipped off to denote