

I have begun to write out the Gospel of St. Mark, and if I *get time* will try to get it ready for printing by next autumn. Our catechisms have not yet arrived, but will, no doubt, be here by first steamer. Nothing of any weight is brought by the winter packets. I am doing the second catechism, and thought I should have had it ready for this packet, but fear I shall not. I do not think it best to teach the syllabic in schools such as this; but in places where neither old nor young can read, and where they have no school the Cree Bible ought to be liberally supplied. A new supply of these Bibles is needed at all our Missions. May we ask you once more to have a *large* number sent from England, where, I think, they may be got through the Secretary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

The Rossville day-school, as you already know, has been out of joint the whole year. It is no better yet. Miss Batty has gone on teaching the few, *the very few*, till now. But she thinks she should not teach longer. She returns home to Ontario by first steamer, 1st of June. I hope we shall see the new teacher at the same time.

Mr. Cookes, who by the way is a worthy man, sent out last summer by the government agent in Winnipeg, opened a school in December, and continued it to some time in April. His attendance was rather large at first. He has sent in his resignation, and it is possible another may be sent out. Please send out a good zealous young man for the Mission school. A new set of maps is needed—can you send them?

There has been about twenty-eight deaths, nearly all children, during the winter. Whooping-cough was generally the cause. There has also been a scarcity of food, and some suffering in consequence. The fall fishery was not good; that failing, there is little to depend on for support through the winter.

Employment will, it is expected, be given to all who are able and willing to work on the Churchill Railway, work on which has already been commenced, the coming season. It is also expected that another railroad from here to York Factory will be begun this year. For two or three years, at least, if these roads are carried on, there will be plenty of work for our Indians. But, on the other hand, their associating with un-Christian white men will do them no good, but harm.

The Rossville Church is getting considerably out of repairs; some timbers were got out three years ago by the Indians for repairing it, and I believe a grant was asked for at that time. A year ago the request was repeated. What shall we do? Considerable damage was done to the fence, launch, etc., last summer by the high water. It will cost something to renew them.

POPLAR RIVER.—This appointment was changed from Beren's River to Norway House last year. It is about eighty miles south from here on the east shore of Lake Winnipeg, just on the boundary between Manitoba and Keewatin. The Indians there belong to the Salteaux tribe. They have never had regular teaching or preaching. A few desultory visits each year for eight or ten years, have not resulted in any very great good. The seed sown was good, but the