

the sleeves. One was used for a lower garment, tied about the waist, and the other an upper garment. Her arms were entirely bare, and she seemed as though she tried to make her legs shorter; as she could not make her garments longer, which were in tatters in the lower parts. Poor thing! she seemed to have some modesty, and did not well like to stand or walk in our presence.

July 2—We bid our Indian friends farewell; and towards evening went out and camped on a sandy island, so as to be able to get a fair start early in the morning. This is a very common custom in this country, to get all together, and in travelling order, and make a few miles, and camp for the night.

July 3, 4, & 5—We worked slowly along against a head wind; getting a fair supply of geese, goslings, and ducks.

July 6—An early start and fair wind brought us home by two o'clock p.m. happy and thankful that we were blessed to return safely, and that all were well and in peace. During my absence brother Brooking had paid a visit to this place, but had left before my arrival.

July 14—For the last two days I have been busy attending to matters and things, visiting the sick, and copying journal to send to the General Superintendent, &c. Some of the Nelson River Indians are here, and they give us a little touch of pure uncontaminated human nature. They have been visiting our village, and it seems, without ceremony, lay hold of any woman that comes in their way. Brother Kostandank locked some women in the house to keep them from these tribes. No wonder we are troubled in this way

among ourselves, when such were the former habits of some of these people. A miracle has been wrought in reforming so many of them.

July 17—Sabbath was a good day: baptized five children. Yesterday I attended to matters and things, visited the sick, &c. Towards evening, we got letters from Canada, which cheered our hearts. To-day I have been writing, visiting, and attending to matters.

July 18—Writing nearly all the morning; worked some in the garden, &c. We have constant calls for medicines and provisions for the sick. On an average we cannot give less than three pounds of flour per day to the sick: this with tea, sugar, &c., &c., cannot be less than the value of £10 per annum, we are called upon to bestow in charity. We have our donation parties here, as well as in the civilized world, and as it is more blessed to give than to receive, we think our donation parties the more excellent of the two.

July 19—Last evening a lad recently from Nelson River died very strangely. A few nights ago he called out in the night, that something had bit him. He has had a burning fever, and has been delirious ever since. One finger on the hand bitten swelled till it burst; and, just before death there were livid or black and putrid spots all over his person. He had also a bad cough, and was much reduced in flesh. He is to be buried to-day.

For a month or two about this season very few fish are taken, and this is our fasting time. For one month in the fall we have plenty of white fish. Early in the spring jack-fish, pike, and sturgeon through June, but it is 15 and 20 miles distant.

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*Extract of a Letter from Rev. R. Brooking, dated, Jackson's Bay Mission, Oxford Lake, February 23rd, 1855.*

I am thankful to say that we continue to enjoy excellent health, and that we feel ourselves quite at home, although at times a little lonely. Our prospects continue encouraging. Nearly all the Indians came home at Christmas, and remained about three weeks. During the Christmas week we had quite a large feast, for which they laid up a great quantity of provisions, viz.. upwards of 300 rabbits, 16 fat beavers,

besides flour, tea, sugar, and other articles. There were about 150 sat down to the tables that were laid out in the church, which was decorated with evergreens for the occasion. After the dinner we had singing, and several of the Indians made speeches suitable to the occasion: all acknowledged that they never saw it after such a fashion. Both old and young enjoyed it very much, saying, as they left in the evening, that