

sufficient sense of benefits received from white men; for they are apt to think that all white men are as selfish in the objects of their intercourse with them, as are the traders, and it is with difficulty we can induce them to believe that we seek not theirs, but them.

Such are the people with almost all of whom the Missionary at this place is necessarily brought into contact for ten or fifteen days together, at the time of their assembling from all parts of the north shore of this lake, and the adjacent parts of Lake Superior, to receive the clothing and provisions which are dealt out to them by the generosity of the British Government. Till last summer these presents were issued to those resident on the American territory, as well as to those who came from places within the British lines. But a regulation was issued from head-quarters, by which the United States Indians had notice that, in three years from the date of the order, the presents would thenceforth be confined to those who come from *bonâ fide* British land; and, in the summer of the present year, this was for the first time put in force.

In former years the number, annually assembled to receive presents, varied from three to nearly six thousand; but this last summer, 1,878 was the total number of those to whom presents were issued, and from this number may be very nearly calculated the gross population of the north shore of this lake, and the adjacent parts of Lake Superior. Allowing for those who, from sickness or other causes, did not