

(Translation.)

LETTER—MRS. SALOMON TO RIEL, COMPLAINING—HOUSE SACKED BY INDIANS.

ST. ANTOINE, 25th April, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—The Indians took possession of my house while I was away. They broke in the doors of the shed and took all the food I had in it. While I was away they did that, and in my presence they killed my hens. If you would kindly send me a cart to help me to remove what I have left, or if you could send me some guards to restrain them, I should be much obliged.

MADAME SALOMON, V.

(Translation.)

A SCOUTING REPORT OF ALEX. CAGAN.

Report of Mr. Alex. Cagan of Lake Muskeg, 26th April, 1885.

I was at Pike Lake, and an Indian started out for Battle River. When he got there the Indians of that place were taking the contents of the stores. I state what the Indians told me. There was but one store near the Government fort which was not taken, but the Indians camped near that store. The next morning they set out to clean out all the stores, after breakfast. All the goods the Indians took they hauled to their camp as they took them. They started to take a camp which was on the other side of the river, but they arrived too late, for the Indians were already starting for the north side. I forgot to state that all the chiefs held a meeting before that, in order to ask the agent for ammunition for hunting. They asked quietly four times. The agent replied: "I will not let you have any ammunition; live as you have been accustomed to live." Little Spruce said: "Why? You promised to feed us. We asked you for this quietly in order to support our children; you are doing this to vex us. No one asked you to come here." Straw-man, another Indian, said: "Yes, you shall soon see how we used to live in former times; we were great fools." And then they went away. The following day the agent and Peter Banatine took two sacks of flour and 50 lbs. of bacon to each chief. Straw-man said to Banatine: "You are doing this to make fun of us and to vex us the more." The first they went to see was the farm instructor at Eagle Mountain where Red Pheasant is. The farmer fired first, but they made his shot go off in the air, and the son of Horned Bull, an Assiniboine, pierced him with an arrow, but Maringouin's son-in-law finished him with his tomahawk. An Assiniboine Indian named Yellow-Hair killed another farmer who had care of the cattle. They crushed his head also; these two events happened the same day. On the reserve of Chief "Struck-in-the back," Jos. McKay was the farmer, and they warned him that they did not want to do him harm, because they were too much accustomed to him, but they took everything there was there. Then they went to Straw-man's reserve. There was a farmer there, and before they spoke to him he tried to defend himself, but a Cree named Flowing-Leaf took the axe and gave him a blow on the cheek; the other turned round and yelled, but he gave him a second blow and finished him. Then some of them wanted to draw back, but their people sought to kill them. The Assiniboine wanted to kill the Crees who wished to draw back. He said to them: "They have already killed one-half of us by hunger, you must not try to save them." In this way they all went together and no person would draw back. The name of the Indian who brought me that news is La Graine D'Original. After that, I said to the Cree: "Let us go and see about Battle River and the Lake Brocket people. And when we stopped on the other side of the river, after we got off our horses, they fired three times at us with their cannon. And when I saw that, there were some abandoned houses, and I told the Indians to burst open the doors and help themselves. The houses were well stocked with provisions and the Indians said: "Riel is charitable, and that's why we have plenty to eat." A little way further down we helped