

day for several months before he died, as we found it too fatiguing for him to come twice from his own house to the church. He was a faithful class-leader for many years. When he met his class for the last time, which was a few days before he died, he seemed to have a premonition of his death, although then as well as usual. He spoke of his speedy departure, and exhorted them all to be faithful to the end. The next day he sent for me, and requested that I would appoint one of his sons leader in his place, if I thought him fit for the position. To his great delight I did so, as "the son is worthy of the sire." At his request I assembled, at his house, all the old members who had renounced paganism and become Christians at the same time he did, over thirty years ago. While for about an hour he was reviewing the past, and talking to them of God's goodness in bringing them out of paganism, and bestowing so many blessings upon them, I thought of Joshua's memorable gathering of the elder people at Shechem to hear his dying charge. I administered to them the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, after which, at his request, about an hour was spent in singing his favorite hymns and in prayer. We all felt that the place was "close on the verge of heaven." He bade us all farewell, addressed a few parting words to the different members of his household, then closed his eyes in sleep, "and was not, for God had taken him." It was an unusual death. The great difficulty among us seemed to be to realize the presence of death at all. He suffered from no disease, and had no pain. His eye was just as bright, his voice as clear, his grip as firm, his mind as unclouded as ever, until the last gentle sleep, when "the wheels of life stood still." We miss him very much, for his presence was sunshine, and his prayers were benedictions upon us all; but he has joined his son Samuel, who passed away so triumphantly, as we wrote you, a few months ago. Since his death the wife of another of his sons has gone. She died well, and as the dying chieftain's cry has often checked wavering, and nerved them on to victory, so this good woman's impressive dying words to her husband and friends, have caused them to give

themselves afresh to God, and they are now decided and zealous soldiers of the cross.

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October 25th.

WINTER

Has commenced his despotic reign. A fierce N.E. wind with a blinding snow-storm commenced yesterday. The lake in front of our village has frozen over very suddenly. In the morning, white crested waves were rushing along in quick succession; in the evening of the same day, before dark, the ice was so strong that a man walked a distance of several miles on it, with no aid except a pole about eight feet long, with which he crossed several cracks or openings, caused by the currents of rivers which run through the lake. My good wife says, "Don't send this. They will never believe it possible for a stormy lake to be so suddenly frozen over. Indeed," she adds, "I would not have believed it myself, if I had not seen it!"

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October 26th.

TRYING VISITATION.

Bad tidings keep coming in from our Indians. The great storms and the freezings have caused many of them to lose their fishing nets. Some have lost all, but others have not suffered so severely. This is very distressing news as only now can the winter's supply of fish be caught; and as this is the chief article of food for us all, we fear there will be much suffering before next May, when fish can be again obtained. I have done what little my limited means would permit, to help some with nets who had lost most severely; but, alas, that was not much. Our own supply of fish is not yet all caught, and our winter's supply of flour is still in Red River, and now I suppose it must there remain until next June, as the Hudson Bay Company had too much freighting to do of their own, to get it out for us.

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October 30th.

Over a hundred of the Indians came on the ice to church yesterday, from their fisheries; some over twelve miles away. They feel bad about their losses. Not half the usual number of