

unusual quantity of snow that had fallen, that the whole country was covered with water for many weeks. The inhabitants were driven to take refuge in the neighbouring hills, nine or ten miles distant, for their houses were carried away by the mighty torrents. The Mission family and Indian boys, and a few strangers, sought safety on a wooden platform near the church; but, the flood still rising, they were obliged also, after three days, to procure boats and row over fields and plains to the Snake Indian hills. There they got tents erected, and remained a month, suffering great privations; for it was not until the 12th of June that they could return to the settlement, where only three houses were left standing, one of them being the Missionaries' dwelling. The upper church had suffered less than any other building: the one at Image Plains had not escaped so well.

The inundation having occurred at the time when the crops should have been sown, prolonged their trials from want of sufficient food for another year; as there was not time, in the short summer of these regions, for the crops to ripen. The uncertainty of the supplies by the hunting parties had determined Mr. Cockran to try and cultivate more ground; and this he was obliged to do with his own hands, not only from the ignorance of the Indians, but also from want of means to feed a labourer. He taught the Indian boys to help him, but through all that year, and until the harvest of 1827, they were reduced to great difficulties, hardly getting food enough to preserve life. But, in the midst of these heavy trials, they were cheered by seeing some fruit of their labours in two native Indians. One was an aged woman of the Saskatchewan