

who was with us from a week after our arrival until September, with a very bad foot, returned to us on Tuesday last. His foot is not entirely healed, but he is able to walk on crutches. He brought with him his boy, who was with him while he was here before. The old man holds on to the christian faith, and he came to give up his boy to us, who is a fine quiet lad, perhaps 15 years of age—very attentive to his father—and in this respect most unlike the generality of Indian youths.—He wishes his son to be taught like white people. We asked the boy himself whether he wishes to be a christian and to learn to read and write and work like white people : and he said that he does so. We have agreed to receive him and to teach him as well as we can. The old man also brought an orphan boy with him—one at least whose father is dead and who is deserted by his mother—he may be 7 or 8 years old—him too we must adopt, and if we find that there is no danger of his being removed from us, I may baptise him—the son of the old man has already been baptised—*John* being his christian name. Mrs. N. is getting clothes prepared for these two adopted boys—and to-morrow she hopes to cut their hair and to get them to lay aside their buffalo robes, breach cloths and leggings, and to don the garbs of civilization. This is the right way of getting on with children, and I have good expectations that this example will be followed by others. This very week two of those who occasionally camp here told us that although they do not care for church and school themselves they wish their children to have the benefit of these : and old George says that 15 tents of his relations are coming down in the fall who have all some notion of settling and becoming christians. A young man with his wife and child whom I met with on my Edmonton journey have also come to us. They were among French Free Traders and have been considered papists. When I met them in the Plains—the man was so ill with a sore back that he could scarcely crawl.—His disease continues—so that he can walk but little. He wishes to become a protestant—but I have not yet had time to talk with him to ascertain his reasons for wishing to change his profession : perhaps the expectation of temporal assistance may have something to do with it. Be this as it may, he is just such a one as should have our christian compassion, and that we must extend as far as our means will allow.

I hope our congregations have been anticipating such cases as these and that boxes of useful articles are on the way both for clothing the needy, and for purchasing provisions for our increasing household. Coarse garments of print and canvas for boys and girls will be most useful, striped cotton shirts and woollen under shirts are always required—both large and small. Coarse cloth, brown, white, striped and printed cotton are in constant demand. Blankets of all sizes, thread, needles, (common and gloves) thimbles, fish-hooks, &c., &c. In a word any sort of common useful articles will be acceptable and serve instead of money here.

I have every reason to believe that before another year passes a considerable number of settlers besides Indians will be around us.

There is quite a gathering of Indians here just now. The principal men have been at the mission.—They continue quite friendly. They remained while we had worship—which was perhaps the first time that some of them were present at christian worship. Our old friend—the White Bow has attended our services regularly since he came from the woods, and there are always some other Indians present.

Mr. McKay has commenced ploughing. In some spots the frost is not sufficiently out of the ground yet, but it rains now, and likely another day or two will render it all soft enough.

We expect to put down about ten acres of crop.