

Letter from Gowan Gilmour, Rosseau, to Mrs. Von Iffland, St. Michael's, Quebec.

DEAR MADAM—I duly received the barrel of clothing from your Branch of the Auxiliary, and am very thankful indeed. I have a number of poor families scattered through my mission, and the different articles in the barrel were just what was required. I have no Indians in my present mission, but I find the white people, when they are in great need, more pitiable. I enclose a letter I received a few days ago, and it is one of many, and it will show you how badly off some of my flock are. The last two winters have been very severe on poor people, and the times hard, work very scarce, and no money at all. . . . Poor Mrs. Gilmour has been in bad health for some two years past, and is now with her parents in the North West, Alberta, and I fear will not be able to return to Rosseau. The lady who was house-keeping for me here suddenly became very ill some weeks ago, with nervous attack, and her eyesight in great danger, and the pain awful ; we sent her to Toronto for special treatment. I have been occupied day and night, and am indeed nearly worn out, which has prevented my writing and acknowledging the barrel at once. The lady is better but the Oculist reports the sight of one eye nearly gone, and if we had delayed sending her any longer would have become totally blind. I have other great troubles to meet in my mission, and am never at rest. I met Canon Von Iffland some ten years ago, for a few minutes only, on the railway platform at North Bay. Please convey to the members of your Branch my thanks and kindest regards for their work and labour of love, also to the old woman who gave the quilt and jacket, which I gave to the writer of the letter.

P.S.—I was never so badly in want of Prayer and Hymn books.

Copy of the letter inclosed to Mr. Gilmour.

DEAR SIR.—I write you these few lines to ask if you intend to give me the clothes that you said you would as we are in fearful rags ; I would not mind if it was not for Harry, if you