

A MESSAGE FROM THE NORTH-WEST.

To the Editor, Canadian Church Magazine and Mission News:

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly allow me, through your columns, to thank those branches of the Womans' Auxiliary to Missions who last year rendered us great assistance in clothing the many half clad and naked Indians on this reserve, and to ask a continuance of their kindness? Will you also allow me to plead for further help from other branches? Last year we were compelled to send hundreds of needy ones away—many with scarcely a rag to their back. We are able, from some few, to obtain a little assistance round the Mission in getting wood cut and little odd jobs done in return for the clothing. This is a great help to us personally, as the small salary we receive will not provide more than the bare necessities of life out in the far west, where everything is so dear, so that our friends help in two ways, to clothe the poor and at the same time to help the missionary. Winter is fast closing upon us and the Indians are already asking for clothing, whilst our store is empty. If we could get one or two boxes by the end of November we should feel very grateful. Our general time for distribution is Christmas. My wife has no material left for her girls' working party, and very little thread to work up the material should any arrive. Our Indians number over 2,300, their annual income \$5.00 per head. Some by work, others by sale of part of their crops (which are generally very small), are able to add a few dollars to their income, but this goes but a little way in clothing these poor creatures, so that we who look upon them as our people earnestly plead with Christian friends in Eastern Canada to help us as far as lies in their power. Could they see the sights we saw last winter, of naked and semi-naked children, and poor old women with scarcely a rag to wear, I feel sure our supply would be increased ten fold, and even this would not provide for all. Who, then, will help us? We shall be glad to send a sample of a squaw dress to any branch of the Woman's Auxiliary sending us a postal card. This dress is more becoming to Indian women, requires no buttons, hooks, eyes, or tape, and is preferred by them to the European dress. It takes but a few yards of wincey, lincey, course serge, or ticking to make a dress. Owing to the price of material here bed ticking and common cotton are the goods chiefly used. Little dresses for girls made after the Indian, or a very plain European pattern, will be welcomed for our children, with shirts for men and boys, hoods and bonnets for women and girls, mufflers, gloves, stockings and mits for all. Our men and boys gladly welcome partly worn overcoats, undercoats, vests and trowsers, but we would ask our Christian friends to see there is some wear still left in them. Our winters are very severe and altogether un-

suitable for threadbare garments. I must say that our old friends know this well and have never sent anything we were ashamed to tell our Indians were sent by Christian friends.

We ask then those who love the Lord Jesus to think of us, as they look through their wardrobes, and see if some partly worn dress can't be made into a dress for our Indian women; if there is not a good, cast off coat, trousers or vest lying useless there, or if a yard or two of spare material can be found for a little Indian girl, or a few skeins of wool that, in the spare minutes, can be made into a muffler, a pair of stockings, or a pair of mits. The little daughter of the house might make a little cotton or cretonne bag and put into it a couple of reels of thread, a few needles, a thimble and a pair of scissors as a present for one of our poor people. In this and many ways our Christian friends may help us. Who will? who will?

In the past the Canadian Pacific railway have kindly allowed half rates, so that the expense of sending a bale, a barrel or a box will not be much, and from my experience I know there are many gentlemen who will so far help the ladies as to pay the freight if the ladies will well provide the clothing.

Trusting many of God's people will come to our assistance,

Believe me,

Sincerely yours in Jesus,

SAMUEL TRIVETT, (Rev.)

Blood Reservation, Macleod, Alberta, N. W. T., per C. P. R., to Lethbridge via Dunmage.

According to the *Madras Mail* the condition of affairs in Corea is threatening. The Queen is the real power in the kingdom. Two foreign ladies, one Russian and the other American, have gained much influence over her. Their aim is to make Corea break away from the Chinese alliance and become independent. The King is a feeble, irresolute man, and in case of difficulty relies on the Queen, who has a stronger will. The British consul, Mr. Demy, is on good terms with the King and the Russian consul at Leon, but the Corean Prime Minister is his avowed enemy, and has a secret understanding with Yuen, the Chinese resident. The kingdom is in a bad condition financially, and the people are greatly oppressed. Russian and Japanese policies have their parties and adherents. The policy of China is kept in the background, and the tendency of affairs in Corea seems to be towards a break with China. It seems as if the Chinese policy towards Corea is like its recent policy towards Thibet and India, which is much resented in India, and has caused a deep distrust of the Chinese government and its diplomatic methods. In order to avert the misfortunes which threaten her, and Corea also, China ought to deal with her tributary in a dear, straightforward and unambiguous way.