

cold weather comes, in fact everything was useful and good and well packed. The jelly and fluid beef will be first-rate for the sick ones, of which we have quite a number. We have at present 17 girls and 11 boys, and are expecting to take more every day, so that as our numbers increase so do our needs. I shall be heartily glad if you can in future work for us, for it was a real pleasure to unpack such a barrel. If at any future time you require any information about our work, I shall be most happy to give it you. I would especially request your prayers at this time for our Indians who are preparing for baptism, and those who request to be married according to Church rules. My hands are full with the work of the house and the adults seeking baptism and marriage. Again thanking you sincerely for the excellent barrel of clothing."

TORONTO. *From Rev. Geo. Holmes, St. Peter's Mission, Lesser Slave Lake, Peace River District, July 26th, 1899.*

To our dear Friends and Helpers of the W.A.

"Never before have I written a letter from St. Peter's Mission under such a deep sense of responsibility for its contents, nor did I ever feel that so much depended upon any appeal I ever sent forth. We hate to be constantly before the Christian public as chronic beggars, but at the present crisis, circumstances compel us to choose between that or resigning the work, and that at present we are not prepared to do.

Ever since the Government notified us of their intention to treat with the Indians and Halfbreeds in this Diocese, we have anticipated a crisis in our work, especially in connection with our Boarding Schools. That crisis has now come, and I am sorry to say, that the result of the Treaty here does not brighten our future prospects, but otherwise—the outlook is anything but encouraging.

As I have before stated, the natives of Athabasca, with the exception of the Beavers and Chipewyans, are of mixed blood, though from a Missionary point of view, they are as much Indians as either of these tribes. The Commissioners were empowered to treat all as Indians who were willing to accept Treaty; but to our great disappointment, and the severe loss of the Schools, only a small minority accepted it, the rest all choosing "Scrip" instead. They regarded