

Cumberland Station  
Rivière du Pas  
Sept<sup>r</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1845.

My Dear Sir,

I received your kind letter of Aug<sup>t</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> by Settee who arrived here last evening with his wife and family - When at Norway House I engaged a Carpenter & on my arrival here sent down his Indians for the purpose of bringing him up - he could not accompany me in the boats as M<sup>r</sup> Ross required his services for a few weeks longer - the Indians on their arrival found Settee at Jack River, & both Carpenter & wife, Settee & family arrived here safely last evening - M<sup>r</sup> Ross sent 3 Indians with him to bring the Ship Packet for Cumberland, these Indians are returning & it is by them that I am sending you this Letter-

I obtained a second hand boat at Norway House, & if you will write me in the Winter about what time my supplies will reach there I will send down the boat for them - the boat will I expect - make two trips next year, so that should the Settlers make me a large contribution of flour, what remained after the first trip could be brought up next by the second - I am equally anxious with yourself to prevent our Indians from coming in contact, & by this arrangement we shall effectively do so -

As I have engaged a Carpenter you need not now send me one from Red River - he appears an active and efficient man & will no doubt make us some decent buildings - It is not my intention after mature deliberation to remove from this Place, I fear Cumberland Lake from what I heard at Norway House would be far less eligible than our present location, & I should be leaving an open field here to the Priest;

Page 2

& many of my Indians would very probably not remove with me I shall therefore commence immediately erecting my house here, I have nearly cutted(?) down all the wood for this purpose -

As it will be too late for Settee to proceed to Rapid River this fall, as he has left some of his things a few days journey from here which will take a week or so to get up - he will assist Budd in the duties of the School and the Carpenter in the erection of my house, and proceed early next Spring to Rapid River - I shall endeavour to manage Mrs. Settee as well as possible - I have promised to lend him 4 Cwt of flour during the Winter which he will repay me next Spring - He has brought on the twine here which you sent Mr. Ross, as Mr. R. had been already repaid - about half this twine Settee & Budd wish to have between them, but I will send you particulars of this in the winter in order to charge it to their respective accounts -

The old M<sup>s</sup> Budd will assign her charge the end of this month, I shall pay her from the goods I have here for her services up to that time, and you will be pleased to give me credit for the £4.13.7 charged in the present years a/c for her Salary up to June next

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As I am not going to Cumberland Lake you will be pleased to strike the Sturgeon twine out of my Indent, & send me none next year as I have a large stock at present on hand - you will be pleased to send me the fine twine ordered in my Indent, in addition to what Settee has now brought, as this is a most valuable article for payment among the Indians - I have promised to let

Page 3

Settee & Budd have 22 skeins out of the 45, to make nets for white fish to support themselves during the Winter - the large iron cake & the small Garden D<sup>o</sup>(?) you will also be pleased to strike out of my Indent as I find I have two already - I shall be glad if you can procure for me a wire sieve, similar to your own -

My crops of Wheat, Barley & Potatoes this year are excellent, about 20 Bushels of Wheat Stacked, 30 to 40 D<sup>o</sup>(?) of Barley & from 400 to 500 Kegs of Potatoes - I hope next year to grow the 50 Bushels of Wheat & obtain Mr. Cockran's present.

I am writing you in great haste as the Express is waiting, be pleased to forward my Letters for England by the Spring Express - I arrived here on the 7<sup>th</sup> ultimo found dear wife & infant in good health - the Priest left shortly after my arrival having bapt<sup>d</sup> a few women & children - not one of my Xtian Indians has joined him - he persuaded Wetus I believe to become a Roman Catholic which he tells me is his intention of doing - I have consequently kept back the present, & do not intend in future to give it to him - he is no Chief, simply a Medicine man of which there are several here all equally as much claim to be considered Chiefs - Indeed we have no Chief in this neighbourhood similar to Peguiys with you - here they are only heads over a few families - if Wetus were bapt<sup>d</sup> by the Priest tomorrow I sho<sup>d</sup> not lose one of my Indians on that account - & as to his claim to land, he has no more authy. over it than any other Indian - Budd is going on pretty well & I hope he may yet be useful - I shall write you more particulars in Winter - Mrs. H writes with me in kind regards.

I remain My Dear Sir

Your's truly

James Hunter