

Cumberland Station

January 7th 1845

Reverend & Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your highly valued letter, dated Nov^r 28th last just a few minutes ago, & I can assure you that I am most happy to hear from you, & will do the best in my power to explain the contents of your esteemed letter to the Indians.

Permit me the honor of dropping you a few lines as opportunity offers, though I am conscious that I am utterly unworthy of such an honor. - I have been some time since very unhappy indeed, more so, than I remember of ever been in all my life. I never felt a deeper sense of my own wicked & sinful heart as I do this moment, & it is giving me so much trouble and uneasiness, that I think by telling you freely, the just cause of my grief; it might be the means of giving me a little ease in my mind: Oh I wish I had only told you of my faults & failings before now, instead of which, I have always endeavoured to hide them from you; that, I consider is as bad if not worse than the deed, but I am constrained now (when I am afraid it is too late, to confess that I have sinned ! very grievously indeed, have sinned

Page 2

against God; against the light I possess; and also against you my best- friends; inasmuch as I have yielded to temptation, & was wishing to do the greatest sin against God, & most injurious to my own soul, & the wish is, I consider as bad as the deed; have sinned against the light of my own understanding, inasmuch as I knew that I was going to do a very bad thing, & broke through all restraint at the time: and have most shamefully offended you. - inasmuch as I kept you ignorant of it so long. This then is my sin which I am most justly suffering for, & which makes God to frown upon me, & hide the light of his countenance from me. - Oh! I shall never through Gods grace cloak my sins any more, for I would not feel such a hell again in my bosom though all the world may frown. Allow me to beg of you to forgive me, what is past; & let me beg for an interest in your most fervent prayers on my behalf that God may give me grace for the future, that I may be kept from falling into such deadly sins: for, "the effectual fervent prayers of a righteous man availeth much". - There are several other accusations which have been brought before The Rev^d M^r Hunter which I can by no means acknowledge, but positively deny, for Betsy Beardy has poisoned the mind of

Page 3

some of the girls to say things which are directly false in order to make it worse if possible, she has promised them rewards, & indeed has given them a gown, silk thread, & necklaces already, to stand firm to what she told them to say, & the poor simple girls

being so encouraged will say a great deal which they cannot prove. And that just to make the matter still worse as if it was not bad enough as it is.

I have been so troubled and grieved that I have said I would not remain here any longer, but that I should leave the place at the end of the year; for I did not consider myself fit at this time, for the duties of my Station; indeed M^r Hunter told me that he expected that would be the case; & if so, I shall not need all my supplies to come here, only such as I shall need, to take me & family to Red River, such as 1 Cask flour, 2 Blankets, 1^{lb} Tea & some sugar, the cloaths & such as shall be found needful for the children. I merely mention this to you because I do not know what to do, & because I think if I have to leave this, & all my supply came up, I will have to pay for the pieces which I am obliged to take back immediately; but I shall just leave it to your decision, to do what you think best, well assured that you will do all in your power to help me, I will be glad to do any thing which you may advise me to do, for I am so much troubled in my mind that I do not know what to do. With my best wishes for your health & that the blessing of God many rest upon your work of faith & labour of love, wherein. Mrs B- and my Mother cordially joins, I am Dear Sir

Your hum Servt

Hy. Budd