

White Earth Reservation Nov. 11th 1898
Rev. Saml. Hollingsworth?
Christain Brother

During my absence
your most valuable box of
clothing arrived safely.
We all are most
truly thankful - The box came
when we began to feel despair
when many of ^{us} said that no
more clothing will be sent to us
from the Eastern christain
people here - & that many of the
christians East will withhold
their aid - because my good
brother Mr Gilfillan has written
East telling the Eastern friends
not to send us any more clothing
at the present time - I cannot
see the reason why such letters
should be sent to the Eastern

friends - if my brother have
as many call from the poor
widows & orphans as I have
from day to day & know the
real condition of the very poor
& needy ones - he never
would have written a such
letter to our friends East.

For over fifty years - the
genl government have been
supplying us clothing abundantly
for the Wash land & County
he has taken away from
us - Million yes Million of
acres he has taken possession

This good payment expired
two years ago - and to day we
have not yet learned fully how
to cultivate the soil, like the
pale faces to gain our support
to clothe ourselves by the fruit
of our labours - I say - we are
yet like children unprepared
to go on like the pale faces 10 years
ago recollect we were all

pagans worshipping to wood &
stones. It must take time
before we become true men
& women in all the ways of a
pale face. It is most true
we are trying hard to imitate
the ways of the pale face. So
near to it. Let me relate an
incident what happened years
ago at Mill Lac. An old
heathen chief Shabohshkong
always lived in a log house
that he built himself & this
old chief I have accompanied ^{him}
to Washington several times
& saw four or five different
presidents. I must hasten
my story. In the fall of the
year 1870 a party of surveyors
near his place got out of provision
that there was no near place
where they could go & purchase more
provision. Hence they started
to go to this old chief Shabohshkong
to see whether they could find some

thing to eat - When they arrived
to his place he had just killed
a fat ox - potatoes corn & wild
Rice he had plenty of it & buck
sotes flour - The old lady was
preparing a good dinner for
them selves expecting no one
to visit them at noon -

The head surveyor made
known his wants to the Chief

The chief said - yes such
as he got - he will give it
to them - as to the potatoes
they could take all they can
pack and as to the flour that
he would divide with them

The old lady spread & clean
rush mat on the floor & a clean
cotton plates & cups for the tea

Every thing was ready - The old
lady ask her husband first to
invite the pole faces - to have them
eat first - The old chief said
to his wife - No - no - I want to do
precisely - what our great father

The President now repeatedly
have advised us - He said to
us - My Red children live
peace & above all to try hard
to follow the ways of ^{the} white
brothers - Now my wife I want
to do it now to the very better
of our great father & advise
we will eat first & to our
second Table I will give it to the
pale faces - You know my wife
our last visit to our friend
Mr Peake (Mr Peake is a white
man) was eating his dinner
and after he got through eating
he invited us - & beside
we all know - that the pale faces
never gave us the first table
and now these hungry pale
faces are here and shall give
them all they can eat & take
away - I say my wife - I will
not invite them to eat with us
to the first table - The old man
invited his family to eat - while

The pale faces look on bewildered
& astonished & uncertain what the
Chief means - They were
six in number on an interpreter
with the party - The chief got
through his dinner turned this
visitors & said - My friends
I have been to Washington several
times talked & shook hands with
you four or five different
presidents - and whenever I
come away from Washington
my great father the presidents
have always given us good
advise - He says to us - My
Red children Live Peace
& try hard to follow the ways of
the Whites - Now my friends
I want to do it as near as I
can - and whenever we go in
to any of your houses either at the
hour of breakfast dinner or supper
you people always give us the
second table - we are always
truly thankful to receive it.

Now my friends come & rest
such as I have & you welcome
with - Here was quite a
houghty cough by the two parties

I say my dear brother
it will take years before we
can understand fully in all
the ways of the false forces

But one thing that gives
me the most joy & consolation
to see these my dear Red
brothers—once heathen ^{would}
to the unknown God—now ^{living}
their right mind clothed
with the knowledge of God
& his dear Son—The friend
of the poor & the Lover of
all men—I say this is indeed
a mystery—how these people
can be brought to the foot of
the Cross—when for centuries
past always lived in a heathen
state—and I am glad to say ^{that}
the church is filled Sunday after
Sunday by the ardent Christians

as we advanced towards
the Christian life & gaining
knowledge the religion of the
Great Spirit - we feel happier
& stronger to do our Master's ^{cause}

To your most valuable box
of clothing arrived at the time
we most needed - My dear
brother from my poor heart I
thank you & the noble hearted
ladies who have assisted
preparing the box - for being
the first time that I am so
fortunate to find two large
Coats that fits me - previous
receiving your box my wife
was in over Coat made
out of an old blanket &
lined outside of it a thick
cotton - that kept me very
warm to cross these great
prairies - I keep two of the
quills for my own use & gave
one way to the most needy
one

By these goods you sent to us
dear friends you have greatly
relieved many very many
who are suffering for want
of suitable warm clothing
Yesterday a poor man came
to me & ask me for clothing
I gave ^{him} one of my old coat
one of my old pants & shirt
my wife & old dress —

Two women died
last night — one was very
old woman I believed
she died by the ^{effect of the} cold she
got in returning home ^{in the night} late
a week ago — When any
one dies — I mean of our
Christian people — They
always call on us for clothing
or white cotton — to wrap round
the body — My wife have already
given away sheets — This mor-
ning she gave two more away
We have Sunday school
the teachers are our own men

daughters - our women's meeting
on every Thursday - were they
are making quilt Comfortables
shirts & dresses - when they have
any materials to do with.

The leader of this meeting is
Mrs A. Susana Roy. Cousin
of my wife - The order of their
meetings in the morning a
hymn & with short prayers &
in the evening Mrs Roy talks & gives
good advice to the younger women
a hymn & with prayer. I have
attended these meetings to the
close say prayers for them.

Now my Christian friends
Many years I was a heathen
man I have never heard the
Saviours Beautiful name
I have attended strictly to the
worship of my fathers - I have been in
the Grand medicine lodge & was
on the eve to be one of the Grand medicine
men among my nation - and when
I heard about the Christian religion

My Grandfather & father advised
me not to go near it - that it was
the only religion for the pale faces - God
said they - made it expressly for
them - but as to the Red man God
made the Grand medicine lodge
for them - & a great beautiful country
beyond the setting of the sun - where
all their friends & children have
gone to live forever

Two years ago - all these
my Christian brethren lived in
heavenly darkness - never ex-
pect to reach their present position
and when I told them about
the Christian religion about the
Blessed Saviour - Ah! they say
it is the religion of the pale faces only
& it is their own Saviour not
for the Red man - But blessed be
God - God in His great mercy
he has pitied me & my poor people
that he is no respecter of person
but in every nation he that feareth him
& worketh Righteousness is accepted ^{with them}

We think we are far more happier
than what we were in our heathen
state. & how often I hear my own
brethren expressed their thankfulness
to almighty God interining their hearts
to him - our old chief now
expressed the other day - "Surely this
is the most blessed priviledge
to enter into the house of God with
my wife & children & to hear the most
blessed word of God - my prayers
grow stronger & stronger for God"

Again churcho friends
we thank you - and how remember
you in our humble prayers

God bless you all
is the prayer of your Red brothers
J. J. Amegashobah

Rm. Samuel Hollingsworth D.D.
Greenfield Mass.

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to



Rev Samuel Hollingsworth
Greenfield
Mass



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