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Traverse des Sioux
July 8 1854

Bro. J. H. Pond;

I would like to send you a good letter but my ink is in such a state I can scarcely write with it.

I have not kept an account of the attendance at preaching since my return. It has been as small and perhaps as uninteresting as at any former time since we came to Traverse, except that the people have sometimes been all absent, sometimes when we had nobody at all. Magie comes some time almost every Sabbath day to hear a talk, but he frequently chooses another time than that of public worship.

The Indians start away this morning after Buffalo. They expect to find them about two days beyond Lafrombois' place. We have been besieged as closely to give, lend, and sell food since our return as at any time since we came into the country. Two or three families had corn to the last, but the majority had nothing.

The health of all at this station is good, so far as I know. I hope we will be enabled to remain among the Dakotas, and that good will be accomplished among them. Sometimes I have felt very sad and almost or quite discouraged.

aged. But my seasons of despondency have not been of very long duration. I think that your want of health is as great a cause of unhappiness as any I have, but if you are disconsolate I never hear of it.

Yesterday we administered and received the communion of the Lord's Supper, with some of the native members of the Lacqui-parle church. Rachel did not attend meeting with us. I have not learned the reason.

Antwine Keaville is talking of coming here to reside. His wife is in poor health, and wishes to be with her relatives. This is I suppose one principal reason for the change.

We were disappointed last Saturday that no one arrived from Lacqui-parle. We expected some of the Mission down with our trunks. Perhaps they deferred on acct. of the high water.

Please give my love to Miss S. A. Wilson. If she wants to come up here on a visit this fall I hope she will write us soon. Let her have the letter at Mr. Grossett's probably we may get it.

Accept my ^{best} ~~kind~~ wishes for yourself and all with you. Please remember me to Mr. Titus. R Hopkins.