

1 Ashbourne Villas
London Hill
Harrow
May 5th/02

My Own Dear Father,

Here I be in our little drawing room at 6.30 a.m. having a chat with you. I expect you will have been to Mary's this week and will have read my letter with news of the bishop's letter. Rob. went to London next day and enquired at the Canadian shipping office got papers and posted them back to the Bishop. We are to go 2nd class by boat and 1st on sleeping railway car to Athabasca Landing. The total cost for the three of us will be £58. Single fare for adult about £30. Of course we could get out there with much less expense if we went as immigrants it would only cost little of 1/2 the amount but we are only doing as the bishop requested. There is one thing quite sure we would not go out there if we had to pay the £58 for we couldn't. Although George has offered to advance it or any money we may want and us to work it off after we get there. Rob. doesn't like the idea of starting with a debt to work off still I hardly expect the Bishop to stand the whole of the expense his letter was very nice and to the point. I should have written you before only every post we are expecting one from George. Perhaps he was away when our letter got there and that may be the reason of the delay, for he often goes to other mission stations and is absent from home for 3 weeks or a month. I really shall not be quite sure of going even yet until we get our passage from Bishop although Rob. looked up some boats there are splendid steamers.

(new page. perhaps some missing)
leave. one on July 30 and August 8th. What a tremendous lot to be done before we get to ----. Rob. talks of sending baby and me on as soon as we give this house up that will be the end of June. I thought perhaps we might stay with you a few days if convenient but will settle that later on. Enough about us. I have been wondering how you are going on about the property it will be about settled ere this and you will be feeling very sad and a good bit disappointed over the loss of it. Rob. told Mr. Joce(?) Sunday so that he can look out for rooms. He wasn't surprised at all for Rob. has talked so much about his brother's work but he thought the separation for you, May and I would be a little sad for we are so much attached to each other. He suggested us all going together and Mr. Moore to go also as a teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Chambers and their little one year old came to tea last Sunday. Muriel has grown such a fine rosy faced little woman, she doesn't walk yet is too fat and heavy but is very forward in other ways, talking and singing so nicely. George seemed quite abashed and was so quiet for a while. After tea he carried her everything he could get hold of the buffet and books and his doggie and they got on very well. I think Georgie would talk sooner if he had some children of his own age or a little older to play with. I couldn't go to chapel Sunday, not could I talk very well to Mrs. C. I did miss my usual from you dear father. Had such a nice letter from May Friday. Have the choir got a prize? Rob. coming in so Goodnight and God bless you dear.

Your Affect. Daughter, Jessie.

Chapleau
Jan. 26. 07

My dear Jessie,

You have often been in my thoughts, and prayers too. The house did feel lonely after you left, and dear little Eunice, we did miss her scampering about. But I am glad you have reached safely(sic) and once again had the joy and privilege of meeting your loved ones once more upon earth. I do trust you will have a very happy and restful change. You will now have quite settled down in your new surroundings. I shall be looking for a letter telling me about the journey. Did your luggage turn up? I have written to Robert, poor fellow, I do feel sorry for him. George is in Toronto, he has been there, and round about for nearly a fortnight. He was not well when he left us, but wrote he was better, and consulting two doctors, and at present I don't know the verdict.

The very day he was leaving for Toronto, his free pass for this year came from Sir Thomas Shauncery (?), just in the nick of time, saving him at least \$70. So I dare say he will be going West to see Robert.

We expect the Rev. George ? here for the second Sunday in Feb. and I suppose he will be acting Rector until we find someone suitable. We had a Mr. Brown in view, but has failed us. I only hope we may get a man after God's ? heart, and one who will be spiritually minded.

I was grieved to get Annie's letter saying mother had met with this accident. We shall be most anxious to hear. George being away from home does not - at present (gap?) You left: Chapleau just in time. The thermometer has been standing between 40 and 60 below zero for some days. It has been almost impossible to keep warm and we all have La Grippe. I have been perfectly ill with it, and at this present moment feel like an old woman.

Have you had any advice yet? Don't defer, there's a good girl. Howard and Leslie did miss the children. I felt quite sorry for them. They are sleeping in your room and I am there too while their father is away. It is so nice and warm. I have turned the bathroom out and had it scrubbed, put a new carpet down, and bedspread and the room Miss S. and Miss R occupied is the bathroom, and their bedstead and etc are in Mrs. Nurrills(?) room and altogether it is most satisfactory.

Much love dear
from affect. Lizzie

Wycliffe College
Toronto
Jan. 26 07.

My dear Jessie,

I have been wondering how you got through especially as you did not see any of the people from the Andrews Home in Montreal. I was there the other day and was both surprised and perplexed how it was that they had not seen you especially as they say that they went to the station three times in search of you. Mrs. Dalton said that he sat up all night on Thursday night. How was it that you did not go to the home? I think we gave you the address. It would have saved you so much if you had just gone over about 8.00am. It is quite close to the station. I have been very anxious since I heard tell as to how you got to St. John and on to the Empress. However you are home now with your dear ones and I can imagine the great time you are having. I wish that we on this side could just spend a week with you Altogether.

Well I have been here nearly two weeks attending the meeting of the house of the Bishop and doing a great deal of a great variety of business.

I preached twice on Sunday last and at one Church to my great surprise I got \$150. On Monday night last I went to Ottawa to see the India Department. On Wednesday morning onto Montreal and returned here on Thursday and the same night underwent a medical examination. The doctors say that indigestion is the cause of my trouble, but that there is some other cause which may only be removed by an operation but there is no hurry. So, I am going home to see how I get on for the next two months and then if no better I shall come down again with Lizzie and place myself in the hands of the doctors or rather in God's hands and the doctors. I don't think that the doctors are quite sure what it is and therefore think that it may be something which is God's goodness, and thro' prayers may disappear. and make an operation unnecessary.

Please don't allow Mother to hear of this. Keep, it amongst yourselves and please don't tell any outsiders at all.

I have heard from Lizzie twice since I left but she does not mention having heard anything from you. So I have been very anxious. Did anyone meet you at Liverpool? What did George and Eunice think of England? and their friends? Can quite imagine what the home would be like for the first day or two.

I am leaving on Monday night. Am sending for a Canadian churchman with a short account of Mr. James.

Please excuse this hurried scribble. Am preparing to preach twice again tomorrow.

Kindly give my love to all. with prayers and best wishes for a very happy time. Tell Mother and the others that I will write on my return to Chapleau. Thankful to say that I am feeling much better since I came here. The change of scenery has done me much good.

With love to you all. Yours Affect. George.

Jan. 26 -09.

Christ's Ch. Mission

Peace River Crossing

Please remember we have no Christmas cards at Peace River.

My dear Annie,

We were very pleased to receive by last mail, the cards from you and Pollie and Nellie for ourselves and the children. It was the middle of Jan when we got them, we were just as well pleased with them all the same. I told you in my last what kind of Xmas we had and there is nothing more to add from that quarter. I was very pleased (tell Mother) for the few words she sent to us through your letter and pleased to hear she was a little better. We are all well with the exception of colds amongst us and for the last two months the winter has been very mild. Almost every day quite warm. We hear little of George and Lizzie somehow though I have a letter almost every month and a half. You spoke of receiving £2 from us, but I feel sure you should have received £4 since then. I wish I could send more but my liabilities are heavy now with the two years crop failures and the building. I am sending you \$20 £4 this mail and hope you will receive same all right. I must drop Nellie a short letter if possible to acknowledge receipt of her choice cards. I am pleased (sic) can still get up a romance to cause much laughter. It would do us all good if we could hear some of her stories here, we all get so tired with much work. I was indeed pleased Mother sent myself and Mr. Hothersall a card, particularly glad she mentioned him in fact I thank God exceedingly for that. I had felt it keenly that she might never forgive him and that would have been serious as in the Lord's prayer and indeed the principal of all prayers is that we forgive others before we ask God to forgive us. I rejoice over the spirit Mother has shown, it is nothing less than a triumph of the grace of God over our own natural feelings or those of our common enemy, if I am spared to outlive Mother I shall rejoice at that time for those few words conveyed by which I am assured God by grace is preparing her heart in heaven to share a glorious part. I shall not cease to pray that God will lead her on to higher heights and deeper depths of his grace.

George and Eunice are writing letters to their Aunties to acknowledge cards, also to Grandma. I forgot who sent Nowell the Pussy Cat but he ran about delighted with his Putty Cat as he called it. Georgie says I think Nellie sent the Pussy. Georgie was much amused with his card, showing the goose going up to the boy to ask if he ate his Father last Xmas. And Eunice was sure hers was by far the nicest.

I had a cheque from Uncle Jno. Hothersall containing £5 we don't know for what purpose as yet until we receive a letter. I am pleased he called on you and that you mentioned it. I am writing him and will ask him to call on you occasionally. If anything happened when you needed a little friendly Council from a practical man it would be nice to have him drop in he is all business and Aunt Maggie is very nice. It feels hard to me to be so far away just when one might have been of use. However so it is ordained and must be best and some day we shall understand. I suppose you are able to see the Comet now showing in the heavens. All white people are much interested in it here. The natives are afraid and turn down their eyes to the ground and say it is a star burning. We see it about from 6 - 7.30 in the evening and read in the papers it will be seen again in May then again in Perihelion or in that part of its circuit nearest Earth. It sounded like old times to hear of Mrs.(?) Vickers and the name Ruskin. How is Alice one never hears of her. Did you see anything of Rowley this Xmas. I should like to hear of him if we may not hear from him.

Nellie writes that, she is well which we are pleased to hear. We had letters from Posey(?) pouring forth his heart in praise of his ladylove and sending booklets for the children all three. Jessie and I often speak of Mother and all of you, she got much interested in you all when at home and often seems proud to speak of you to others. Mr. Hothersall is now busy preparing our large sitting room with two courses of paper to make it warm and also to beautify it as it needed this. We have just had Sargeant Anderson his wif(sic) and two children for two days. They went home today to our satisfaction. We have too much work without visitors. Give my love to Mother assure her of our prayers and tell her she has made me happy not for Mr. Hothersall but for the feeling she has forgiven him, what she once felt she could not.

Ever Your loving Son and Brother
(signed) Robert.

Nov. 11th -09
Christ's Church Mission
Peace River Crossing
N. Alta
Canada

My dear sisters and Mother,

It is a very long time since we heard anything from home and we are wondering what is the cause. No news is said to be good news but we don't know how to understand this(sic). Do write if only short

We are all well and the winter is down on us now. We are just moving the school into their new quarters tomorrow. It is a very fine building and we are so glad of it we have a spare bedroom for travellers even while the children are here and in the summer shall have any amount of room. Someone was sleeping in the Church nearly all Summer this year we had so many visitors about the time George was here and afterwards. We have been so busy with our new buildings we have not killed down (sic) our cattle and pigs yet have borrowed beef from Brick and Carson.

We hear George and Lizzie may come through again in Feb. of next year if so Lizzie will doubtless stay with us until George goes on to Grand Prairie. That district is now setting up and he must do something there. We have heard nothing of Bill and George yet so we cannot write them even for Xmas. Our work here is growing and we have increasingly less time for writing, we have many people about us and more stock, many more people to visit and more travelling to do. Last night I just got home at 11-30 from visiting on the Indian Reserve, called at Carsons, had supper, loaded with lime for whitewashing, flour from his mill and porridge for the school.

Jessie was waiting up. We have 3 men boarding in the house besides Mr. H. He and two of these are working now inside the new buildings. Jessie has no help but a Beaver Indian girl about 12 years of age and she goes to school. Mrs. M. is almost delighted off her head with the new buildings and school. She is lending some of the money for building. Mrs. Hall and she have wars and tussles about the children, both come and tell us their story and we have to try and act as wise as Socrates between them. They will however rub the corners off each other and pull together in time. Both love their work. We will try and send you a photo of the new buildings soon. All say they are a credit to the place. I am working with the man in the buildings to get them ready to move in before the severe cold comes tho' we are having about 15 below now. The ice is running in River now we cannot cross at the Crossing for towards a month until the ice jams and freezes solid. Then we can cross by the ice for about four months. Now my dear people how are you. We send you our Xmas greetings our love and prayers and I will enclose a \$5 bill which you can cash at the bank. It will save time. Though you will get a little less than full value.

Please give Rowley and Jennie our kindest Regards and best Xmas greetings Tell Mrs. Burrows we have the rose leaves from their garden yet. Our Xmas greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Birch and her sister and husband. I trust you all have a happy Xmas don't mourn or pine for that which is past, make the best of what you have, count the many blessings, as the Hymn says and God will bless you. Casting all your care upon Him who careth for you. Tell Mother I am like the Tennyson who blessed the day when he was born. So will I on Xmas day tho' I won't have much time to think of it. We always get a full church on Xmas day and to our children's concert and magic lantern and light and about a dozen people to stay over night afterwards and all the Indians come around at that time, they come out of the bush to pray (as they call it).

Now I must close goodbye and real compliments of the season for again we shall be reminded that Christ is born and to all who will, God is reconciled

My God is reconciled
His pardoning voice I hear
He has me for His child
I can no longer fear
With confidence I now draw nigh
And Father, Abba Father cry

Good Bye dear Mother and Sisters
Ever your Son and Brother

Robert.

Nov. 24th -09.
Christ's Ch. Mission
Peace River Crossing

My Dear Annie,

I have just written George and must now write you. Your last letter was somewhat sad to hear Mother suffering and being so weak and Nellie not yet quite well.

Tell Mother if she does not read this, we are all well here, tho' the winter has come in very severe, we have 16 inches of snow which will remain with us until March next and more will come. Tell Mother we just got our New School and children have finished in time not a day too early and they are rare(sic) and comfortable in it; it is a large and noble looking building and warm. Our house looks very small beside it. Mrs. Milton and Mrs. Hale still go scrapping a little, but they forgive each other and go on again. They have now 16 boarders and 5 day scholars, 2 of the latter are outs. We have all the Indian children of the Peace River Band of school age which we consider a great favour. We shall now merit the grant from the Indian Department of about \$80 per head for six children we have never had anything previously from that direction. The Roman Catholics have none this year this should please George very much. We have abundance of food for the winter 3 steers killed, 2 pigs, 2 more pigs to kill plenty of all kinds of vegetables only a little short in flour and hay. We have 6 horses to winter this year two colts of our own rearing and the good team Jno. Wright bought for us and the team we had before.

We have two extra helpers Mrs. Hall and Mr. Webster a gentleman from Croydon to learn farming in Canada. He is surprised and scared with the winter. Well it is strange Bill does not write us or any of you give us their address. But if it has to be so we must be content. Now as this will reach you probably about the New Year we must wish you all a very happy Xmas think it not unhappy tho' you may have some sickness and untoward circumstances. They are doubtless the very best for us taking our life as a whole for our family was for many Years without any sickness but this cannot last forever. This is not lack of sympathy I do indeed feel for you poor people and wish I could visit you this Xmas and New Year. The children are already beginning to talk of it and the School will in a week or so begin to practise their carols and Xmas hymns.

You can have Rowley's people across. I would write Rowley but have not his address now. I may send it to you. George is getting a big boy now and Eunice a big girl and Noel(sic) the most lively of the three. If he is asked anything he may say don-aw for don't know, he is quick and forward, knows Jno. Wright, yet when he sees him at the Crossing gets into Jno.'s cupboard and comes out with his hands full of sugar or raisins

(letter unfinished)

Dec. 14t -09
Christ's Ch. Mission
Peace River Crossing
Nth. Alta
Canada

My Dear Mother and Sisters,

Tho' we are so busy it being so near Xmas I must write you a few lines by this mail to let you know we are all well and happy tho' passing through a very severe winter. Our New School and home does beautifully for us but many boarding scholars take much work and care,

This has been up to now the most severe of many winters but has come in a little warmer these past few days.

We have heard nothing of George during a month or more but doubtless they are busy fixing up in their new house. We see from the Athabasca Landing Newspaper they are at home. I have not much to tell you. Jessie and I got home from the Crossing last night where we had been to hold service on the Sunday and had the Hudsons Bay house full and a talk afterwards about the completion of the New Church there. We built the walls to the eaves last year, but are now going to pull down the logs and rebuild on a fresh site. The people were very enthusiastic and will pull down the logs and amongst them send 10 horses to draw the logs to the new site and will at their own expense put up the building to the height it is now. Then we have a scheme for raising money to finish the Church. All at the Crossing that could come to Service but Jno. Wright and he stayed at home baking. Jessie had taken down her fruit and stuff to make her Xmas pudding as John and she have made it together for some years now They arranged to make it in the morning Monday before we left and we were to leave about 3 in the afternoon. I called around in the evening after service and saw the puddings had been all prepared mixed and cooked but he charged me not to tell Jessie. She was still to go around from the Hudsons Bay where we stayed the night to help John with the cakes and puddings. When she got there they were all done and Jno. smiling and saying if he did nothing worse on a Sunday than help a poor hard-worked parsons wife to cook her Xmas puddings on Sunday he would not be far out. Then he told her what he had told George and George told me 6 months ago (viz) that he had made his will dividing the whole of his estate into 3 parts and making one part to his own child, one part to Howard and one to herself, that is Jessie so if he does not change his mind there may be a little some time but it may be as he says 10 -15 or 20 years before she gets anything.---Jno. may have about \$4000 there might be 220 pounds each sometime in the future if John does not change his mind. Jno says he has seen that Jessie is very careful in her housekeeping and he wants to leave his money where it will do good, and he won't give it to the poorest people because most of them who are poor always will be anyway. Jessie is a great favorite with him as with all white people here, but don't say anything to Lizzie or George they would think we were boasting and we have and are nothing to boast of. I only mention it for Mother's comfort if it will comfort her.

Our greatest comfort here is that altho' we cannot now feel (since we took over the farm and the two bad years) that we have the little capital behind us we had before we left here for outside and for England, yet we are now on very different terms with the people both half-caste and white, for poor Johnston can no longer do us harm or spoil out work. His own stories and actions have put this out of possibility and no-one seems to take any notice of him, while confidence and sympathy does indeed seem to grow and our Mission is becoming a power in the district, while the R.C.s seems to be losing its influence here as in other parts of the world. We have had to win our way by many hardships and struggles to the hearts of these people if even by the Grace of God we have done that yet.

I am often distressed thinking about you people at home just now in your need of manly help, without it none of you strong, and lacking in many things and can only pray for God's gracious mercy and goodness to you and I know if you only pray that all will come out right and you will have happiness for all your hardships, joy for all your troubles and rich reward for all your labour of love to Mother. We are all getting into middle life now. Let us be thankful so much of life

has passed as it has. With tenderest love to Mother and Jessie and the children unite in much love to you all,

Ever Your Sincere Son and Brother,
Robert.

P.S. Please let us know when you receive anything we have sent in any way that we may know when and how to send again

Feb. 14th 1910
Christ' Ch, Mission
Peace River

My Dear Mother,

It is mail time so I must write you a short letter to assure you we are all well and getting through the winter very nicely with only slight colds. The weather has continued very mild only we are having it colder just now. This is rather unfortunate as through the beautiful weather and winter the roads up the rivers being so good George and Lizzie have decided to visit us contrary to our expectations. We had a letter only yesterday carried not by mail but by a traveller so we are expecting their arrival almost hourly. We are very glad they are coming as there is much business to be done and many matters to be talked over. Jessie is delighted Lizzie is coming and the children are excited I assure except the little fellow Noel (sic) who will amuse his uncle by telling him that David killed the Diant. and the sparrow killed Tock Robin and that Jesus Tarried the Ba Yams in his arms, he is six weeks short of two years old now and can say almost anything. He is much the brightest of our children at his age and he sets the house laughing at times, he is the most mischievous youngster living. He carries things about and sometimes can tell us what they are. This evening we were asking him where something was he said, "under dare" pointing to a seat in the dining room, when it was not there and we asked him further he said (I don't know) shaking his head, the grandad talks to him much (sic). Mr. Webster our farm help laughs at him immoderately, by the way Webster is going to join the North West Mounted Police, he has had enough of farm work out here, does not like it, says there is nothing to be made in farm work. So will have to have a new man again.

George is driving his own pair of horses, of course every one has a team here. We have six horses here now tho' only two are our own the two Jno Wright helped us to buy, the rest belong to the mission. There is now a race between 3 railway Companies, which can be first to Peace River so we shall have a Railway in two or three years. George tells me in his letter that the Archdeacon has sent in his resignation so, we are also to have a new Archdeacon we are in for changes all round. except in our old friend Mrs. Miller. Our new matron is mostly one in name only except in works of devotion. She has never been accustomed to work and gets excited or what they call 'rattled' in this country. A month ago she knocked down a lamp from the ceiling and scalded her foot and it is still unhealed. She has lost her strength in India. Mrs. M. has had to take on all the work again, besides teaching and sewing and mending for 13 boys she has now to do all the cooking and look after and mind and keep clean 5 girls. When Mrs. Hall is tired she goes to write letters or read and simply leaves Mrs. M. with all. If Mrs. M. were not an old time worker knowing the country and being exceedingly practical we should have trouble. I trust you receive what we sent last mail. I think it was \$25.

I am now reading for my exam to take place in March next and George hopes to ordain a Mr Tricket at the Lake and me at the Synod at the Lake in June next (God willing). They did not allow me to take my exam last spring as was arranged, Geo wanted me to read again and take a good exam. Lizzie may stay with us while George goes on to Grand Prairie to see the Moxhags? who stayed with us so long in the Summer, so may think of us having a nice time all together altho' I shall have to study every minute I expect.

We are hoping there may be some developments re a school for missionaries children in the diocese if so it might have to be here at Peace River on account of health and good water from the Peace and a beautiful site. We have never heard from -- and George yet, surely Bell fears we should want then to assist us, an unfounded fear, we should not do that, it would be unwise, even for George to rent our Mission farm. Now Dear Mother I must close as much other writing waits to be done. Am driving to the Crossing tomorrow with letters and may meet George and Lizzie there. We will write again and tell you all when they have gone.

We do not forget often to pray for you and very often think and speak of you,

As always, Your Affec. Son,
Robert.

Christ's Church Mission
Shaftsbury Settlement
Peace River
Feb. 6th 1912

My Dear Nellie,

As you may well be alone and separate from the rest of our bereaved sisters I am trying to write a word of Comfort and Sympathy in our second trial and loss.

My first word is don't murmur or complain, the more startling or unordinary the more likely it is to be God's doing. George would never have rested from his arduous travelling and strenuous life while able to do it, and if not able to do it, he wouldn't have settled himself, but the Master has intervened, it was enough, the call home has come loud and clear and let not one murmur escape our lips or hearts. I assure you I feel unable to murmur, Oh, such a life was best closed in its zenith, rather than see the hands grow feeble and the feet weary.

The startling news came to us unofficially as we sat at breakfast. Jessie and I on Monday morning last at the Barracks at Peace River Crossing where we had stayed the night after Service there on Sunday. The Telegraph operator at Crossing phoned up asking where the Bishop was, I laughed saying I did not know, thinking someone was wishing to buy Church lands.

He then called for Staff Sergeant Anderson and told him what he could see passing on the wires, the C.P. Railway lines and Government lines were occupied all over Canada with the news. Sergeant and Mrs. Anderson went into the Office and spoke of it between themselves, but not a word to us until after breakfast, when the Sergeant called me out. I refused to accept it and resented the idea saying it was like the news we had of the king being shot in India, he quietly said I hope so for your sake but I fear not.

I hurried down to the office, told the operator my feeling, he said I hope you are right, but the Western Associated Press have it from their agent in London and it is going all over western Canada this moment. I can see the wires were kept going by it. I wired Archdeacon Robins at Athabasca Landing, he had heard nothing but on consulting the telegraph office they told him it was printed already in the Edmonton Bulletin. I wired to Lizzie also asking where is George, important, wire immediately. No reply until this morning when Canon O'Meara of Toronto wired me saying Bishop Holmes died in England Sunday. Mrs. Holmes on the ocean. This swept away the last straw of hope and now he is gone to his reward and God will certainly make up to us all we have lost in him only we cannot have him back. He has new work nearer his Maker whom he loved to serve, and his life proved he served and loved a person not a principal or an essence but a person who reciprocated and nurtured his love for it grew and ripened as the years went on.

We know nothing only that the cause of death was said to be internal Emmorger(sic) I suspect an operation otherwise it must have been perforation of the stomach. People here are saying that he lived long in the early days at Slave Lake cooking for himself or some poor fellow cooking for him living on bannock bread, bacon and fish and tinned nuts. Doubtless his poor stomach was ruined at that time.

His name shall live in Canada for more than a generation. Roman Catholics and Protestants alike seem under a cloud here.

I had occasion to call in a Native house yesterday and found an old halfcaste Hudsons Bay trader who knew Geo. 26 years ago. Five native women gathered. The old man had evidently wept much and the poor women made a cooning (sic) mourning noise on seeing one and cried in consort. (sic) He had always been a friend to the poor Indian against the unscrupulous white men in times past, had spared many of them from losing (sic) their Scrip? worth more than \$600 or \$700 to them the Scrip? and land sharks feared him, his word was powerful when brought to the Provincial or Dominion Government.

Though to us he had his natural peculiarities, but yet tho' our brother he was a real great heart always to be depended upon. We now have the telephone installed since he left and I had looked forward much to hearing his welcome voice over the wire from Slave Lake on his return, through that 100 miles of wild bush country.

Is Polly with you? If so you will share this with her I don't mean it to sound sorrowful but glad you had such a brother, and how much richer you are for having

had him and to remember it was the Grace and Power of God that made him great, operating on his own generous and affectionate nature and strength of personality. He could have been a bad man had he not been a good one, he had the power to be either but his life has been a monument of grace, And the memory of the Just is blessed.

You knew before Dr. Jackson took me in hand this news would be dangerous but thank

God I do not feel that now and seem to have quite -----?but of course I feel everything worse in reaction.

I will try to write Rowley and Bell and George. I hope soon to hear what you girls have decided to do regarding your future home and your plans for while we are alive we must plan. I shall hope to hear more from you soon

Your Affect. Brother

Robert.