MacMartin Diary – 1905

Queen’s University Archives

Locator 2325.9

Transcribed by John Long

(with additions by A. Styba)

1905

June 30th Friday. In accordance with / instructions rec’d from Col. Matheson, Prov. / Treasurer to proceed to Ottawa, to meet / the Domn Commrs who had been empower’d /by the Dom Gov’t to make a Treaty with / the Indians, "styled Treaty No 9.”, I left Perth / on CPR train at 7.50 June 30th on arrival / of train at Ottawa, 9 45. I called upon Mr / Pedley, Depty Sup’t of Indian Affairs, who / introduced me to Mr Scott and Mr Stewart / both of the Dept of Indians Affrs, who had been / appointed by the Dom. Gov’t as Com’s to negotiate / the treaty, No 9, with theIndians.

In company with these Gentlemen and two / Dom Policemen, who had been assigned to / accompany the Commission, I left Ottawa / via ^U. Stn^ C.P.Ry. at 1.15 p.m. On arrival of / train at Mattawa Dr Meindl joined / [2] the party. July 1st Dom Day was celebrated by / travelling on the CPR. and at 1 10 a.m. / Sunday, July 2nd reached Dinorwick [sic] where/ we went into camp ^No. 1^. Tents having been pitched / for our accomodation by Mr Rae, chief Trader, / H.B.Co who has charge of all transportation / arrangements. Remained in camp Sunday /

Monday 3rd struck camp and when luggage / supplies &c were packed in three wagons, left / for Sandy Lake. Portage for Sandy Lake, / over a rough and rocky road, a distance / of 9 miles, the trend being a little N. / of East. Arrived at shore of Lake at 10.20 / a.m. ~~the~~ After the boats, provided by/ Mr Rae, 1 bark canoe (5 fathom) and / 2 large Peterboros were loaded by the / 12 Indians provided for the purpose, / left the shore taking an ^north^ northerly / [3] course for 6 miles to Black face / portage a quarter of a mile in length / ^over a high ridge of sandy soil, Norway Pine in quantity/^ to Minetaka Lake, ~~when~~ the supplies / &c having been placed on board the / Minetaka ~~at the dock~~ a small steamer / ^plying on the lake,^ owned by the ^Johnston^ Sangster Co. left at/ 5 p.m. / ~~and reached~~ ^following a course N. of East to^ Burnt Island 17 miles / distant which we reached at 7.50 pm. / and went into camp ^No 2^. during the / last 7 miles it rained incessantly and / continued most of the night. Timber quite ^good pine wood^

Tuesday 4th still raining at 12 45 pm / struck tents, and when canoes were loaded / left ^Camp No 2^, taking a course N of East for 7 miles / to Abraham Shoot. Some of the party walked / over a rough Portage 1/8 of a mile, boats / ran the rapids. embarking at foot of Shoot / & & passing thro' a chain of lakes seperated [sic] / [4] by narrow passages presenting scenery / of the finest, striking a course n of east / to portage, running [illegible] at Pellican / Falls, named Black-foot, reached at / 6.50 p.m. crossing this muddy and / nick ^named^ portage ^1/4 mile^ the rain falling continuously / camped on shore of Lost Lake / A few minutes after our arrival / three York Boats from H.B.Co. Post / at Lac Seul hove in sight [illegible] / [illegible] propelled by sweeps and sails / and carrying in all 25 Indians, / arrived at the portage.

Wednesday 5th Left ^Camp No 3^ Pelican ~~Island~~ Falls / at 8.10 a.m. called at 10 am at Indian / reservation ^named Frenchmens head^ where Councellor Jim Bunt[ing] came / to shore and interviewed the Dom Comrs / kindly offering to assist in portaging / [5] the luggage over Ishkaqua portage / at wh. we arrived at 10.30 am. / After partaking of refreshments, crossed/ the portage 1 mile long and at3.25pm. / again started on our journey, after / running for two miles up the lake / ~~we turned~~ entered ~~a marshy~~ a creek / running thro’ marshy ground, in places / choked with Moose grass ~~arriving at~~ ^~~and at 4.15~~^ / ~~a portage caused by low water at [illegible] encountered~~ and terminating in ^on account of the low / state of the River in a grassy bank, and^ / a Blue joint[[1]](#footnote-1) marsh, over wh. for 1/8 of a / ~~mile a portage was necessary~~ ^necessitating a portage of 200 ' into Canoe^ ~~left the~~ / ^Lake on east side of wh we^ / ~~portage at 5.15 p.m~~ and reached a / ~~camping ground at~~ ^camped^ 6.50 p.m. /

Thursday 6th ^CampNo 4^ Struck camp at 6:50a.m. / passing thro a creek ~~very crooked~~ narrow / and winding, coming out into [lake?] / [6] [page heading:] Keewatin Dist / such a large and beautiful sheet of / water at 7.45 am. The boats were lined / up ^~~with~~^ ~~the canoes in~~ ^[~~comers~~?]^ ~~which the Do`m Com~~rs / ~~in the center. The~~ [~~Factors~~?] ~~canoe on the~~ / abreast and with flags flying / proceeded up the lake at 7:45 ^am^ against / a heavy wind and swell, arriving at / the H.B. Post at 8.00 a.m. where we / were welcomed by Mr. McKenzie and staff, / ^and were called upon by Chief Kewazie.^/ The Dom Comrs having learned that a dog / dance was taking place at the reservation / across the Lake, after having dinner at / the Factor’s residence we left for Indian / reservation at 11 50 a.m. accompanied / by Chief Kewazie, ^Police, Dr Meindl, Mr Rae &^ ~~who came displaying~~ / ^Mr McKenzie as interpreter,^ ~~his medals started~~ ~~and~~ arrived / at reservation ^5 miles distant^ at 1 p.m.

Mr Scott had the Indians called / [7] together numbering about [blank] / and impressed upon them the / necessity of giving up Dog dances / and other ceremonies contrary / to the Treaty laws.His handling of / this delicate matter, thro' Mr McKenzie / as interpreter, who has a thorough / command of the language and rendered / valuable assistance ~~& also in the~~ / ~~manner he conveyed the utterances~~ / ~~clearly worded sentences of the~~ / is deserving of the highest praise / ~~Kewazic~~ ^[Neeohamaguet?]^, Medicine man replied / in a very cunning way at last / promising conditionally that if / the Dom Comrs ~~would~~ [~~illegible~~] ^[consult?]^ / Powassan [short space] Chief Medicine/ Manand [~~illegible~~] ^have him advise them^ / [8] [~~illegible~~] / that he approved of ^their^ giving up the dances / that he and the band present would / give up the barbarous practice. / ~~Friday 7~~ I regret to record that / Mr Scott was taken ill suddenly / this Ev[enin]g.

Friday 7th ^Camp No 5^ Mr Scott is much better this / a.m. Bidding adieu to the Factor & / his family, left the Post at 11 30 am / taking an easterly course for 1/2 an / hour, then bearing to the N. East, heavy, / wind and [illegible] swell, was encountered / had dinner at 12.40 pm. ~~and after~~ / ~~[illegible~~] ^Again^ the paddles ~~again~~ struck / the water at 2.15 p.m. carrying us / along at 4 miles an hour. Timber poor. / Camped at 6.50 pm. / [9]

Saturday 8. ^Camp No 6^ Up at 5 am. 30 minutes / later had breakfast and at 6.30 am / again started on our journey facing a / strong n. wind and bumpy water. / Morning very chilly[[2]](#footnote-2) Was obliged to / use H.B. blanket as a shawl to keep warm / wh. greatly amased the Indians, as they im- / agined they had a squaw[[3]](#footnote-3) aboard.

Had dinner at 11.45 am. (ran 16 miles) / left at 1.30 p.m. Wind still fresh and cold / ki[c]king up quite a dust on the Lake, / and causing the canoes to dance about / on the wave crests and at times to ship / ~~quite~~ a little water, at 3 15 pm. Reached / Pickerel Rap~~ids~~^’ds^ or Falls, over wh. The / Indians with the aid of tump lines and / hauling, ~~they~~ drew the canoes ~~into deep~~ / [illegible] Safely to the ~~H~~dead water at head of [10] the Falls. Left the F’ls at 3.30 pm. / running up a River named Deep River / ~~and altho’ presenting some very fine~~ / ~~scenery~~ with its banks fringed with moose / grass and in places the scr[aggy?] timber / rearching to the water. Timber, mineral and / agricultural land foreign to this section / 6 30 p.m. passed out of Deep River / ~~Sunday 9~~~~th~~ into Burton Lake wh. Derives / its name from a Mr Burton who died and / was buried on a ^high^ point near the entrance / to the Lake. 6 40 p.m. tied up and / camped on an Island opposite the / entrance of Root River.

Sunday 9th ^Camp No 7.^ Up at 5.15 am. Left / ~~at~~ Island at 6.40 taking an easterly / course to Root River which we enter / at 6 50 a.m. River varies in width / [11] from 100' to 150'. very little current ~~and as~~ / ~~the alders reach the water on both banks~~, / the stream is winding and fringed on / both banks by Alders. At 8.35 a.m / reached portage round rapids over the / rocks. Reached Rapids No 2. named / Lynx at 11.20 a.m. Crossing the / trail over the portage at 1.40 pm. / we again struck off in the canoes / and reached Flour portage at / 2.30 p.m. taking to the canoes / again at 3. pm and reaching / portage No 4 at 3.10pm. named / the "Current that goes along the / rocks” crossing portage started / from shore at 3.35. p.m. and / reached Boulder Rapids at / 4. p.m.[~~illegible~~] ^taking^ to the canoes at 4.15 pm / [12] after running across a lagoon / ~~entered~~ at 4 30 pm entered a narrow / winding stream the Indians named / Root River. the Alders almost choke the / stream in places. at 5 15 pm. Reached / Pigeon Falls. Portage No 6. over portage / and off on our journey again at / 16 [sic] 15 p.m. at 6 45 pm came to / rapids [short space] Portage No 7. / luggage, canoes &c having been portaged / we camped for the night.

Monday 10 ^Camp No 8^ Called at 4.30 am / Breakfast at 5. am. again we / start leaving the portage behind at 5.5[0?] / ~~a.m.~~ [~~or?~~] ~~6~~ a.m. camped after crossin[g] / Portage, named "Night Owl Rapids," taking / its name from ^the^ ~~rock~~ surrounding rock / [13] at 6 ~~p~~a.m. reached portage No 9. Named / Sandy Hill, or great divide, over a slight / elevation, a considerable part of wh. runs / thro a tamarac & spruce swamp over / wh.a pole walk has been placed by the / Hd’s Bay Company, coming in sight of the / waters that flow into James Bay at 9.10 / a.m. we started on a small creek, the entrance / to Lake St Joseph, in a short distance it / expands into a wider channel ~~with con-~~ / ~~siderable~~ with considerable marsh for / some distance, taking advantage of / a fair wind, we utilized a quilt for / sail and spinning down theLake, wh. in / some of the reaches was very rough / and bumpy, we tied up~~at~~for dinner / at 11 40 p.m. [sic] leaving at 12.40 p.m. / hoisted the improvised sail and / [14] started ata spinning rate, the / wind still being steady and strong, reaching / a camping ground, named [short space] / [longer space] ~~after a thrilling~~ / ~~experience in [illeg] ride~~ reached / ~~and rough~~ [~~illegible~~] reach that the / ~~high wind had lashed into a high~~ / ~~running sea to the point forming~~ / ~~[illegible]~~ at 7.05 pm

Tuesday 11th Camp No 9. Broke camp and / resumed our journey at 5.50 a.m. / and at 8.45 a.m. entered the Grand Traverse / the widest part of the Lake, fortunately / the windhad died down, permitting / the crossing of this part of the Lakewh. / is 10 miles in width and [stretching?] / out on our course N. by N. East as far / as the eye ~~could~~ ^can^ reach. / [15] at 11 30 a.m. tied up for dinner,again / starting off at 1 p.m. ~~thro the narrows~~ / ^extremely warm, in fact almost^ ~~formed by islands [illegible] and reaching~~ / ^unendurable^ ~~Osnaberg at 4. p.m.~~ at 3.30 rounding / a low sandy point, ~~the Hd’s B’y Post~~ / came in view ^of Post^, lining the canoes up ^with flags flying^ we / moved on abrest to the landing at / Osnaberg, landing at 4 ^30 pm^ p.m. w we / were received by Mr Williams the Agent / and at once proceeded to shakehands / with the Indians who had assembled / for the purpose of meetingthe Commission / shortly afterwards , a conference with / the following leading Indians was / held in one of the Agents rooms, /

OOmbash /

David Skunk / [16]

George Wawaashkung /

M~~a~~issabay, chief (blind) /

Thomas Kewooshiss /

Nahookeesheck /

Kwaish /

Patequash /

John Skunk /

Mr D.C. Scott having stated the object / of our coming so long a distance / to meet them, thro Jim Swaine / as Interpreter and having ordered a feast / ~~same as~~ ^similar to that^ as held yearly, the Indians / departed, shortly afterwards sending word / thro’ the Agent, Mr Williams, that ~~they~~ / that they would ^give a^ reply the following morning

[short space] Wednesday 12th Camp No 10 [~~Indians~~] / [16] at 12 n. the H. B. bell tolled announcing / the Feast was prepared. Chief / Massabay accompanied by the leading / men of the Band approached the H.B. / House (Agents) being requested to take / seats, and asked if they had any thing / to say. Chief Massabay said, “Whatever / you say we will do.[”] Mr Scott thanked / them and asked if they were ready to / sign the Treaty, which they did by / making their mark, departing immediately / after to the “Feast Ground” in front of H.B. / Store where the band encircled the ample / supply of provisions afforded for / the occasion. Massabay the blind / chief, moving up and down on the / plank walk crossing part of ground / delivered an oration to wh. the / Band listened attentively, the pith / [18] of his speech, being that the white men / were their friends, were good, had / assisted them giving money and / lands for their benefit, that the H.B. / was good to them and that they / ^could not get along without the white men & they^ must be good and obey the laws, / they were poor and needed assistance / and could only except help by / proving themselves good. At the / conclusion of the Chiefs address the / Band seemed to thoroughly enjoy / the Feast prepared for them.

At 2.30 pm the Indians were called / up by Families and every man / woman and child found eligible / was given a present of $8/xx. I carefully / counted the no[.] ~~of~~ in families and / checked the pay list. At 7 pm. / [19] just as payment was suspended for the / day, the leading men of the Band advanced / to the Dom. Comrs Tent and announced / that they had chosen Massabay for chief / George Wawaashkung and John Skunk / as councilors. on being presented with a / large Union Jack as promised and the / ^usual handshaking having taken place, /^ left for their Tents evidently very much / pleased; during the night, a very heavy / thunder shower accompanied by high / wind occurred and the Indians were / seen to be moving their flag from place / to place endeavouring to protect it from / wind and storm.

Thursday 13th Resumed paying the Indians / this a.m. and closed up the Pay list / at 12 p.m. during the morning the / Chief and Councillors present a / [20] conference was held re apportioning / the respective Reserves, and agreed / that that part of the Band that / hunted in Ontario should have / the Reserve as follows,

In the Province of Ontario beginning / at the western entrance of the Albany / River running westward a / distance estimated at four miles / as far as the point known as Sand / point at the Eastern entrance of / Pedlars Pass Bay following the / shore of this point Southward and / around it across the narrow / entrance of a Bay to a point on / east shore of the outlet of / PauKunKee Scepee, thence due / south a total to comprise / [21] an area of twenty square miles / and on the north shore, the following, /

In the North West Territory. / Beginning at a point in the centre / of the foot of the first small Bay / West of the Hd’s B. Post, thence west / a frontage of ten miles and North / sufficient distance to give a total / area of Fifty three [square] miles, including / precious metals.[[4]](#footnote-4) I examined the / Ontario Reserve as carefully as time / and circumstances permitted, & confirm / the information given by Mr Williams / Agent at the Post that the timber / is small and of little value, the land / unfit for Agricultural purposes. /

Dr Mendle, paid a visit to the / Indian Encampment, attending / [22] to all cases presented and before / leaving vaccinated 107 of the Band /The Indians were carefully counted by / families the N West Ty. No [blank] / Ontario / 113.

Friday 14th Left Post at 7 a.m, crossing / the Lake to the mouth of the River wh / is divided by an Island into two / Channels, banks, low and swampy. / running down the river reached / portage over Hughie's Creek Rapids. / here, some thirty years ago an / atrocious murder was committed / by the Snake Indians, they having / tied a man and woman back / to back threw them into the / rapids. leaving theportage and / running down the river cameto / [23] Deep and Shoal Lake,a beautiful / sheet of water stretching out a / distance of 4 miles in length. / leaving the Lake the river is shallow / and full of boulders, owing to the / low state of the water; after running / several rapids tied up for dinner / high sandy Bank denuded of timber by fire / at 11 30 a.m. here the channel is / divided by Islands, at the foot / of wh. the opening into Terrible Tent Falls / running down same reached portage / No 2 ~~over Smooth Rock Falls on~~ / cutting off bend of River on wh / there are said to be Three Falls. / taking to the boats again / ran Whirlpool Rapids and / camped at 7 00 p.m. on bald / rocky bank. very warm all day. /[24]

Saturday 15. Broke camp at 5 a.m. / passing down the River thro’ the / rapids at 6 30 a.m. crossed / Lick in the hole portage over / High Rock Falls. Here the first / Trout was caught by Dr Mendle. / crossing two portages over rapids / and running then over Canoe / Lake which was lashed into fury / by the high wind, rendering the / passage very dangerous. tied up / for dinner at 12:10 pm. / taking to the canoes and running / a series of rapids. [2 blank lines]

Camped at foot of Cow Byre / rapids 7 10 / [25]

Sunday16th / Broke camp at 6 30 am, the river / as is usually the case, at head and / foot of rapids is divided into two / channels by an Island. Timber / ~~as usual~~ of little value, small / Spruce, Poplar, Birch & Jack Pine. / tied up for dinner 11.30 ^a.m^ / resuming our canoes at 1.20 pm / passed down the ‘River’ for a short / distance passing down a small / Lake, and running several / rapids, crossed two portages over / upper and middle snake / rapids, tied up for the night / at 7 pm on the latter portage / [blank line] [26] [6 blank lines]

Monday 17th / Breakfast 5.15 am. Broke camp / 6.15 am, reaching lower snake / portage. over rapids 6 45 am the / Falls have carved their course / thro’ and over slate beds. while / crossing the portage I noticed / some small quartz stringers thro’ / the slate, shewing no pyrite, / only indicating the possible / existence of mineral in the / [27] locality. the river below the Falls / is rapid for some distance, then / entering Lake Miminiska passing / ~~up~~ down same tied up for dinner / in the river at 12 n. Immediately / after resuming our course passed / thro’ a small Lake came to / portage over Sturgeon & Bullrush / Falls. the portage 1 mile long over / a fairly good trail. large spruce, / Poplar and Cotton wood are found. / up to this point with a rare / exception the banks of the river and / Lakes are low and marshy / timber small and of no commercial / value. leaving the portage the / channel of the river runs thro’ / [blank line] [28] a narrow gorge, formed by the high / clay banks, into Sandy Narrows / Lake passing over about 8 miles of / the Lake. the guide having gone off / the regular route, tied up for the / night at the foot of a low marshy / Bay at 7.10 p.m. Weather fine and / excessively hot. / [3 blank lines]

Tuesday 18th / Broke camp at 6 a.m. facing a / strong east wind proceeded down / the Lake. (this lake is of larger / proportions than Lake Miminiska) / crossing portage over rapids / [29] the River below the roughest part of / the rapids has still a very strong / current for a short stretch to Lake / named by Indians Little Elbow / Lake, passing across same reached / portage at 11 a.m., over rapids / named Tom Richards Rapids / he alone escaping from drowning / out of a party of six who attempted / to run the rapids, 30 years past. / After dinner at 12 50 p.m. pulled / out passing down a chain of / small Lakes and running up / a small but rapid River entered / Lake Ebamet, a beautiful sheet of / water that might be styled an / inland sea, passing in an ~~Easterly~~ ^Westerly^ / direction, with canoes lined up / [30] and flags flying, expecting any / moment to be driven ashore by the / heavy wind that had sprung up / and was lashing the waters of / the bay into foam, causing the / canoes to ship water, touched / the still waters of a small creek / winding its tortuous course to the / dock [space] where / we were welcomed by Mr Gordon / the Manager of the H. B.C. Post. / A number of the Indians having / assembled on our arrival after / the usual hand shaking had / been gone thro’ with, we retired to / the Agents House. Camps pitched / in the yard in front of the House / at 6 pm./[31]

This Post in addition to H.B.Coy. / buildings has two churches, R. C. and / English. Father Fafard, the missionary who resides at Albany / arrived this p.m. The English missionary / is at present absent at Martens Falls / [blank line] / I visited both churches. in the Episcopal / church maps with the Indian / alphabet[[5]](#footnote-5) hung upon the walls / ~~as~~ the Edifice being used at times as / a mission school. [short space] / the missionary assisted by a boy / [short space] has built a substantial / Bridge to the Church, situated on a / ^peninsula^ across the creek from the Fort. / morning and ev’g service is held by / the resident Indians [short space] / [32] [5 blank lines]

Wednesday 19th / This morning the representative Indians / who were not absent from the Fort / assembled and a conference was held / Mr Scott thro' an Interpreter (Sinclair Ritch) / stated to them that the King had sent / the Commission to see how his people / were and to enter into a Treaty with / them, and that theKing wished to / help his subjects and see that they / were happy and comfortable, giving / themas a present this year $8. Per / [33] capita and an annuity for ever of $4. / per annum. also setting aside for their / sole use and benefit a tract of land1 / square mile to each family of 5 that no / white man should put his foot on with- / out their permission. the Indians were / then askedif they had any thing to say. / "Yesno," replied that he was willing to / enter into Treaty and advised the / others to act likewise. / [blank line]

Monias, said, I should like to consult / with my Aunts and cousins. if I buy / as small an article as a needle I have / to pay for same. you come here / offering money we have not asked for / I do not understand, and should / like to have it explained. after an / [34] explanation, he along with the / others signified his assent and / the Treaty was signed. After handshaking / they departed to prepare for their / Feast and to talk over the election / of Chief and Councillors.

In the afternoon the pay lists having / been completed, Mr Scott commenced / paying the Indians who were called / up in families and carefully counted / the Indians received their present / of money with that stolid indifference / characteristic of their race, some- / times smiling as they looked / at the bills and received their / ticket numbered for future use / and identification, some of them / one or two returned the money / [35] thinking that they had not / received their just due, not being / able to distinguish between one / and two dollar bills,[[6]](#footnote-6) but in / every instance it was found to / be correct and they turned away / perfectly satisfied. lists were / closed for the day at 610 pm. / [5 blank lines]

Thursday 20th / Resumed paying at 9 a.m. / and continued until 12 n / when the feast was announced / and the Band encircling the / [36] the [sic] provisions wh. werepiled up / in the centre of the plot facing / the H.B. Store. when the feast was / nearly over Katchang who was / absent when the Treaty was signed / and refused to accept the present / of $8 offered, came with his family / and said he was willing to accept / the money as his brothers had done / after receiving same, he thanked / the Commissioners saying that / he would put the money to / good use.his wife also said / she would use her influence / with the women of the Band / to make them good. the feast / being over, word was brought / from the Indians by Mr Gordon / [37] Mg'rH.B.C that they had elected /

Katchang – Chief /

Yesno )

Joe Goodman )

Ooskineegish Benjamin ) Councillors

Quisces George )

[blank line] / Returning to the feast ground / and explaining that the chief / was to rule overthe Band for / three years and that the flag / a twelve foot Union Jack / wh. was presented to him was / to be turned over to his successor / provided he and the councilors / were not reelected at the end / of that term,then shaking / hands with them retired /[38] shortly after the chief and / his councillors came to our / camp and informed us they / had after consultation decided / upon the land they desired / to have as a reservation / asking for a water frontage /of 100 miles. on being told / that it was impossible to / grant a tract of land of the / dimensions asked for and / having again explained that / a reserve was simply a / home for them on wh. no / white man could hunt or / cut timber, or build without / their permission and that / 1 square mile per each family / [39] of five was the basis on wh. / the size of the land would / be alotted [sic], the chief then said / he was satisfied and after / some discussion we proposed / that the following land / ~~should~~ be granted as their / Reservation. /

Fort Hope, in the N.W.Ty / beginning at Kitchesagi / on the north shore of Lake / Eabamet, extending eastward / along the shore of the Lake 10 / miles; lines to be run at right / angles from these two points to / contain sufficient land to provide / one square mile for each family / of five upon the ascertained / [40] population of the Band.

the Indians all assented. the chief / who was absent when the Treaty / was signed when asked to endorse / same, replied, that as long as he / was Chief he was to be paidthe / same amount as received at / this payment, but when it was / maid[sic]plain to him that the / amt paid this year was a / present from the King and that / in future he would receive as long / as he lived an annuity of / $4 per annum, he assented & also / said what use is my name on / the Treaty I was not present / when the terms were explained. / when he understood that / [41] he as chief elect should show / his appreciation of terms in Treaty / and also sanction said terms as / the head of the Band, he immediately / touched the pen, saying I will do / all in my power to have the / Bandobey the laws and be good / Indians. at 7 30 p.m Mr / Richards English Church Missionary / arrived from Marten’s Falls and / was given a hearty welcome by / the Indians who seem to havethe / highest esteem and regard / for him. he had been called / to Marten’s Falls by the Bishop / [3 blank lines] [42] [6 blank lines]

Friday 21st / This a.m. Mr Richards called / upon us at the H.B. Company / Residence. had a pleasant / talk with [him] regarding the capabilities / of the country as regards agriculture / and timber Lands, learning that / the soil was poor, and that / the only source from wh. the / Indians and he himself derived / means of subsistence was / [43] ^Mr. Richards mission Extends from) / Marten’s Falls to Osnaberg) /^ from fish and Rabbits; during / our stay at the Fort Dr. Mendle, attended / to the diff. ailments of the Indians and / vaccinated 201 of the Band. /

At 11:10 - / All being in readiness for our / departure, bidding adieu to / Mr Gordon and family, shaking / hands with the Chief & those of / the Band who had assembled /at the dock, stepped into the canoes / and as they rounded the point / entering the lake, rousing cheers / were given by those assembled on / the shore of the Bay. Proceeding / down the Bay against a head wind / from the East. tied upfor dinner at / ~~for dinner at~~ the Entrance of Little / [44] Narrows River. Dinner over again / resumed our onward course at / 2 p.m. running thro’ a chain / of lakes reached portage at 6.20 p.m. / over a boiling Rapids, which the / Indians ran with the loaded canoes; / crossing the portage about 1/2 mile long / in wh. large spruce, small poplar / Birch and cotton wood was tobe seen / at 6.35 p.m. again took to the canoes / running several rapids, the upper / one being exceedingly rough, tieing / up & pitching tents at 7 30 pm. / The shores of lake and river during / the days run were as usual low / and swampy. Rained during the / night. / [blank line] [45] [3 blank lines]

Saturday 22nd / Raining heavily, preventing our / moving. very high wind during / the day & continuing during night. / [3 blank lines]

Sunday, 23 / High wind & rain from the N. ~~East~~ West / Broke camp at 10 20 am facing / the raw and chilly wind with / occasional showers, passing thro' / a chain of rapids and [expansions?] / the river bank low and swampy / [46] the scrubby timber reaching to the / water edge, principally spruce / and poplar, tied up for lunch / at 1.15 p.m. lunch over, ran a / short distance down the river / and entered Lake Makokibaton / a fine sheet of water about 25 / miles long by 2 in width, banks / low and grassy. near the Entrance / noticed a grave newly made / and apparently well cared for / on the n side of Lake and about / 6 miles further down on a point / on the north shore, another grave / near which a Rabbit blanket was / hung up. there being a very heavy / swell on the Lake were obliged to hug / the north shore of the Lake. Banks / [47] Low in places rocky; principally sandy / gravel, timber of the usual kind. / Camped at 7 p.m. about 20 miles down / Lake in a bay opposite the largest Island / seen on the Lake, (scarcely any Islands). / at times, showery, others, excessively hot / during the day. / [2 blank lines]

Monday 24th / Called at 4 30 a.m. Breakfast over / at 5 a.m., left the shore at 5.45 a.m. / bright clear morning. cold N.E. wind / blowing. running down the Lake / facing the stiff breeze for 5 miles / entered the river, running several / rapids, crossed portage No 1 over a / rapid two tough to run with all / [48] the [illegible] freight. portage 1/8 mile long. / as the canoes loaded were run thro / the rapids by the Indians no delay / of any length of time was caused. / entering the canoes again ran another / rapid at foot of wh were two H.B.Co / York boats making their way up from / Albany with cargo. accompanying them / were two Indian families in canoes. / passing on again ran rapids over / a sheer fall at their head of about 2 / feet. passing thro’ this rapid water / came to portage No. 2. the timber on / the Portage consists of large spruce and / poplar with a few small balsams. / the country as viewed from the canoe / today presents a very flat appearance / banks low swampy the willows / [49] reaching to the waters edge. On Portage / No 2 considerable ^feldspar ~~crystals~~^ [illegible] is to be seen / in crystals thro’ the rock. after lunch / ran several rapids crossing portage / No 3, where an Island divides the River / into two falls as is generally the case / at the head of all the principal falls / the light canoes were run over the / South Falls. the falls on the n side / are very rough and in the centre / divided by rocks. have a gradual descent / for some distance then taking a plunge / of about 8'. portage over same about 1/4 / mile long. canoes again loaded left / portage at 2.25 p.m. running rapid / and rough water. walking around / two falls, the former having a straight / fall of about 5', the latter about 8’ / [50] a tumbling, seething, foaming mass / of water again falling at the foot / about 6'. as usual the Falls at the head / are divided by an Island. portage about / 300' long 1/2 mile down river, comes / portage No 4, 1/8 mile long over No 3 Fall / these falls are within the area of 1 mile / the last No 3 is the largest fall I have / seen on the River, an immense volume / of water ^400' wide^ passing over and falling in / all to the foot about 16' within the / past 2 miles. the capabilities of the / River as a water power producer are / immense. at 7 p.m. went into camp / [4 blank lines] [51]

Tuesday 25th / [blank line] / Called at 4 a.m. resuming our / journey at 6.20 am, running / thro’ rapid water and arriving / at Martens falls the H.B.C Post at / 7 35 a.m. this Post is situated on / a high clay Bank about 25' above the / foot of the rapids, styled falls. The / Soil at this Post is the most fertile / I have seen on the whole route, being / a mixture of dark mucky soil and white / clay. the Garden at the post is / cultivated well and shows potatos / and onions well advanced. In front / of Mr Iseroff’s house there is set up / an old ship cannonade, wh as / far as usefulness is a thing of the / [52] past. there is also an English Ch. / Store &c. After lunch, Chief Wm / Whitehead and a number of the / leading Indians having assembled / a conference was held Mr Iserhoff / acting as Interpreter, explaining that / the King had sent his representatives / to negotiate a Treaty with them / and advance their interests as / he wished all his subjects to be / happy and prosperous. also, after / they had entered into treaty a / present of $8. per capita would / be granted this year and an annuity / for life of $4 per annum, and / that a tract of land as a reserve / would be set aside for their / sole use and benefit, giving / [53] to each family of five 1 sq mile on wh / no white man would be permitted / to hunt on, cut wood, erect building / or even set his foot on without / having first received their sanction. / that they were to elect a chief and / two puny[[7]](#footnote-7) chiefs or councillors who / were to hold office for 3 years unless / reelected at the end of the time. / that they must in return obey the / laws and be subject to same, as / the white man, and would be amemiable [sic] / to punishment if they were not / good Indiansand obedient. that a copy of the treaty would be furnished / them as as to enable them to see / and read just what they had / subscribed to / [54] on being asked if they had any / reply to make, the chief said he / was ready to accept the terms as / offered and that his people were / also willing. the treaty was then / signed without any further / discussion at 2 p.m.

The pay lists being completed the / Indians were called up in families, / and carefully counted and paid / each head of the family receiving / a card numbered for future use / some being absent the money was / held over (returned to Dept of Indian / Affairs)

Dom. Indians no. 71 - $568 00 /

Ont “ “ 24 192.00 / [blank line] [55]

As promised them a feast was pre- / pared and when all was in readiness / at 7 p.m. and every member of the Band / served with currant bannocks, tea, pipes / and tobacco, they announced that /they had chosen -

Wm. Whitehead / chief

Wm Coaster / ^and^ Long and Tom Ostesama as Councillors / [blank line]

Chief White head then delivered an / oration, in wh he said, pointing up / and down the river that they were /being cornered by not being allowed / both banks of the River per miles to / fish and hunt on but that they / must accept what was offered from / these who had given them presents / [56] and provided a feast for them. / when it was explained to them that they / could hunt and fish as of old and / they were not restricted as to territory, the / Reserve, merely being a home for them where / in which no white man could interfere, or trespass / upon, that the land was theirs for ever; they / gladly accepted the situation, and said / they would settle the reserve question later / on. the flag was then presented to the / chief with the admonitions as usual. / The feast over, about 9.30 p.m. the / chief and his councillors came to / our quarters saying that they wanted / both banks for 50 miles down river as / a hunting reserve. again it was / put forcibly before them, that it / was a home for them that was / [57] being provided & not a hunting preserve / and that they could hunt wherever they / pleased. they signified their assent / and the following land was allotted

On the Albany River in the N.W.Ty / beginning at a point one quarter of / a mile below the foot of the Rapids / known as Marten’s Falls, down stream / a distance of six miles and of / sufficient depth to give an area / of 30 square miles.

at 10 pm after the usual handshaking / they took their departure perfectly / satisfied. the river below Martens falls / and past the allotted reserve has no / falls upon it merely a strong current / [2 blank lines] / [58] before leaving Dr Meindl besides attending / to the various ills of the Indians many / of whom were suffering from consumption, / vaccinated 47 of the Band principally / children. / [3 blank lines] /

Wednesday 26th / Called at 5.30 am. / Bidding adieu, to the H.B.Cs / clerk Mr Iseroff and shaking / hands with the chief and / the assembled Indians, started / down stream at 8.15 a.m./ taking a N. Easterly course / after paddling about 10 miles / passed over two small / [59] rapids or ripples, the former of wh. / the Indians have named Devil rapids / about 5 miles further down stream / [Swan?] River also named by the Indians / flows into the Albany from the n.west. / lunched at 12 n. left at 1 30 p.m. / the river here widens out considerably / to a width of from 1/4 to 1/2 a mile / also dotted with fairly large Islands / after passing down the river for about / 5 miles the Ogiki [Ogoki] enters from the / south[.] nearly opposite on the north / shore two graves apparently of recent / date are to be seen in a poplar / grove on high ground, railings made / of split wood surrounding them. / & passed the Ogiki at 5.30 p.m. / [blank line] [60] at 6:30 p.m. tied up for tea / the boats being prepared for the night / tied them together and floated / down stream, untieing and running / the rapid parts of the river separately / passed 1 river unamed flowing / in to the Albany from the n.west / estimated run during the night / 35 miles making a total for / the24 hours of 75 miles /

Very warm during the day / and cold a night. / [6 blank lines]

Thursday 27th / Stopped for breakfast at 8 am. / River at this part is narrower flanked / on both sides by high white clay banks / continuing a n east course, tied / up for dinner, leaving at 2.10 p.m / a few minutes later passed / Little Sturgeon River flowing from / the South, paddling for almost 3 miles / a large Island divides the River / into two channels the southern / one leading intoKenogami or / English River wh we entered at 2.50 / p.m; River is as large as the upper / Albany, current about 2 miles an / hour banks low, slopping [sic] to the / water & fringed with willows. After / paddling about 1 miles the Indians / [62] tied our canoe to the large bark /occupied by the Dom. Com’rs and rigging / a tow line to the bark canoe the Indians / four in number in half hour / relays towed the canoes against / the current in orthodox canal style / timber, spruce, balsam, cotton wood / poplar and very small birch. / Weather very warm thro’ the day / ~~Camped~~ [rest of line illegible] / Showerry during the afternoon / Camped for the night at 7 pm / [2 blank lines]

Friday 28th / Broke camp at 6.45 p.m men still / towing the canoes in half hour / relays, course southerly / [63] during the morning passed a / small river flowing from the west / at 11 20 met 2 Indians and squaw / who gave the information that there / were no Indians at the post but that / they would push on and attempt / to get them together. at 12 40 p.m. / passed unamed River flowing / from the west. dinner over / started up stream at 2 pm. / following a southerly course. / Excessively warm during the day / camped for the night at 7 p.m. / hard frost during the night / [2 blank lines]

Saturday 29th / Called at 4 a.m. Broke camp / [64] at 5.30. morning very cold. Starting / again on a similar course against / a strong current. the timber along / the River on the west bank has been / burnt over & presents nothing but / dry poles for miles, up to and past / the Post where we arrived at 5 p.m. / and forthwith proceeded to get / the pay sheets in order, calling up / the Indianswho had assembled / by families, carefully counting & / paying them. as there are so few / in the band we decided to assign / them to the Albany band as they / are also Crees and give them a reservation / on the English River where they would be / paid their treaty money each year /

reservation. on Kenogami or English River In the / Province of Ontario, beginning at a point three miles / below Hds Bay Post on the north side of the River / [65] known as English River thence north a frontage of 3 / miles and of sufficient depth to provide 1 square / for each family of five upon the ascertained population / of the band/

Sunday 30 / Rained all day. Indians with- / out saying any thing sat down / to their feast in the wet grass / at 7.15 p.m. / [5 blank lines]

Monday 31st / Up at 4 am., heavy frost this / a.m. very cold night. / left the Post at 5 35 a.m. / running down the River, and / dining at 12 n. resuming / our course at 1 15 pm / reaching the Albany at 6 pm / [66] camping at a point about / 5 miles down stream at 7.30 / 5 Indians, 3 women and one / orphan girl who belonged to / the Marten's Falls Band who / had been in waiting to meet / the party 11 1/2 days and who / were entered on the pay list / were duly given their present / of $8. they signified their willingness /to accept the Treaty, obey the laws / and be good and dutiful / subjects of the King. / Very warm during the day / cold at night / [3 blank lines] [67]

Tuesday Aug 1st / Up at 4.30 am, left at 6 a.m / running down the river for an / hour the stream widens out to / about a 1/2 mile where we passed / the abandoned Hds Bay Post once / styled Old Fort Hope, the oldest / Post on the Continent, it was at this / post that the N.W.Co wiped out / all the whites then resident at / the Fort. 6 or 7 miles down stream / from this point Eagles Nest River / enters from the north / dinner over at 1.30 p.m. running / about 7 miles down stream passed / Chiezman River entering from / the south about 5 miles farther / down stream Chepy River in / [68] the neighborhood of 250' wide and / entering from the Ontario side of / boundary named by the Indians / Uncany, relating to the dead as / a number of them met their death / and were buried there on the / banks of the stream, a century or / more past. A short distance / down the Albany a number of / Indians ^(15)^ were camped who / were carefully counted and / paid; six belonging to the English / River Band the remaining / 9 to Fort Albany. just opposite / the Indian camp is the foot of / a large Island that divides the / River into two channels. here the / River after channels divide is / [69] about 3/4 of a mile wide. two / miles down stream an Island / about 1/2 mile wide and two / miles long divides the River. At / 6 p.m. we camped opposite this / Island on the N. Bank of the / Albany. Excessively hot during / the day. / [2 blank lines]

Wednesday 2nd / Up at 4 a.m. after breakfast / left at 5 20 a.m. about two / miles down the south branch / or channel a river named / Sisinnagog enters from the South / the large Island bears the same / name. about 7 miles farther / [70] [page heading:] X Re soil / down stream a small stream / enters from the n. named by the / Indians swolen finger as an / Indian who at one time camped / there was continually troubled with / swolen fingers. as there was a fair / wind blowing improvised sails / were hoisted. having covered about / 4 miles passed bear bone Island / a long strip of land nearly denuded / of timber. all the soil on Islands / and banks of stream is composed / of white clay sand and gravel / The canoe route past this and / another Island is about 1/2 mile / wide. the banks are about 15' high / X [refers to page heading] and wherever I have had an / opportunity of examining the / [71] [page heading continues from previous page:] back of Banks of Albany River / country back of the banks find that / they are flanked by muskegs[[8]](#footnote-8) X / running about 35 miles down / stream again came to Islands separating / the channel and causing slight / rapids near the foot of wh. Fishing / Creek enters from the north. Here / tied up for dinner havingrun / with the aid of current and / sail about 15 miles this morning / as estimated on map. / dinner over left at 1.15 pm / hoisting sails sped on our way / at a lively clip, passing over / two small rapids caused by / an Island forcing the / channel into narrow bounds / at 4 30 p.m. passed Otter / [72] Creek entering from the South / campedat 6.30 on an Island / opposite the fork of River marked on / the map. at 7.30 a very heavy / and violent wind storm passed / over lasting about 30 minutes / prior to this it was showering and / turned very cold. / [5 blank lines]

Thursday 3rd / Up at 4.30 am. chilly morning. Left / at 6.30, passing a no of Islands and / running 2 rapids named respectively / Boatmans and Coopers falls where the / [73] river is about a mile wide. Arrived / at Fort Albany at 9 30 am where we were / received by Mr [blank] and / Mr Patterson formerly of Nipigon House / who is replacing the former who is returning / to England on leave of absence. /

Fort Albany is situated on an Island in / the Albany River, and besides the Hd’s Bay / buildings wh. are on a large scale owing / to the Post being a distributing point / for the Upper River Posts, there are two / churches, Episcopal with a residence / for the missionary, R. C. with residence / Convent and Hospital combined in / charge of 4 nuns. Accommodation / for 25 children in the convent. Everything / connected with the hospital & school / is in perfect order and marvelously / [74] neat and clean; there are also two / priests and 4 brothers of the Oblate / Order. Cattle are kept by the Hds Bay / people. potatoes, rhubarb and vegetables / grown in the garden. /

After getting warmed up at the managers / residence, and partaking of dinner / the leading Indians not absent were / assembled in a room off the Office / at the Fort and it was then explained / to them thro’ Interpreter James Linklater / that the King had sent his representatives / to enter into Treaty with them as he / wished all his subjects both whites / and Indians to be happy and prosperous / and that he wished to set aside a / tract of land for their sole use and / benefit upon wh no white man would / [75] be permitted to trespass. he also wishing / to assist them would after the signing / of the Treaty make a present this year / of $8 per capita and an annuity during / all time of $4 per annum. that an / Agent would be appointed to meet / them at a season to be agreed upon / and he would pay to all present / absentees $8. in addition to the $4 annuity / falling due next year. and that they / would be paid the money promised / after signing the Treaty as soon as / the pay list were prepared. Also / that the King had ordered a feast for / them in commemoration of this event / wh. would not be continued year after / year being provided this year on account / [blank line] [76] of it being the Treaty year. it was also / explained that so many of their band / being absent the choosing of chief and / councillors would be deferred until next / year when they were all assembled / & that on the Election of chief he would / be given a flag wh. he was to fly on / all occasions when visitors or Gov't / officials visited his camp & that after / the term of 3 years, the flag would be / transferred to his enccessor[[9]](#footnote-9) unless he / was reelected. They were then asked / if they had any thing to say in return / Wm Goodwin, said that they were / very glad to accept the terms as / stated, that the King was good & / that his present would help them / very much. then said we are / [77] ready to sign the Treaty wh was duly / signed at 3.30 p.m. / [4 blank lines]

Friday 4th / The paylists being completed the Indians / were called up in families, carefully / counted and paid [space] / [space] In the afternoon we / paid an official visit to the R.C. / Convent and Hospital. there is accommodation / for 25 children. everything reflects credit on / the Order of sisters who besides being teachers / are trained nurses and attend to the / sick Indians who come for treatment / to their Hospital. we also visited the / [78] Church which is and [sic] ideal chapel the / painting and ornamentation having / been done by Bro Tremblay who has in / the church here as well as at Fort / Hope done all the carving with a pocket / knife. the work is beautifully executed / and would do credit to any sculptor / bidding adieu to the sisters, priest and / Brothers, as we proceeded along the path / leading to the fort, the steamer Inenew / hove in sight coming up the Bay from / Moose Factory with supplies for the / Post and having on board Bishop / Holmes of the diocese of Moosonee / who I met and had a conversation / with during the afternoon re matters / connected with his missionary / work/ [79] [3 blank lines]

Saturday 5th / During the day attended to posting the / pay sheets and in the evg attended the / Indian feast wh was held at 7 p.m. / When the Indians were all served with / raisin bannocks, tea, pipes and tobacco / Chas Stephens rose and read a / letter from Wm Goodwin thanking / the King for his kindness in giving / them a present of money wh would / help them along and providing / a feast for them. they then before / leaving gave three cheers for the / King and three cheers for the / [80] Commissioners, Bishop Holmes / leading. they then dispersed / and went to their homes / contented and happy / at 5 p.m. Father Forfard flying / the Union Jack at the stem of his / canoe arrived at the R.C. Mission / Wm Goodman on account of illness / was unable to attend the feast, and sent / a letter thanking the King for his kindness wh. / was read by Chas Stephens

Sunday, 6th / Attended divine service at the Episcopal / Church at 11 am Bishop Homes / officiating and preaching a very touching / sermon and calling for assistance / in the mission work, which was / nobly responded to by the con- / gregation wh was half Indian / [81] the collection amounting to $10200 / Dr Meindl besides attending to the / ailments of the Indians, vaccinated / 282 of the Band, before leaving.

Fort Albany Reserve in the N West Ty / Beginning at the point where the North River / flows out of the main stream of the N. River [t]hence / north on the east side of the North River a distance / of 10 miles and of sufficient depth to give / an area of 140 sq. miles

Monday 7th / The luggage and supplies also canoes / being placed on the Hd Bay sail / boat left the Dock at 8 am when / a salute was fired from the old / ship cannonade, in front of the Fort. / sailed all day with a fine / wind and anchored outside of / the bar off Moose River at 8.50 / p.m., heavy swell rolling through ^out^ / the night. [continues]

Setting the sails at / [82] Tuesday 8th / 3.50 am, crossed the bar and / entered the river at 4 30 am [~~illegible~~] / arriving at the Factory at 10 a.m / Moose Factory is situated on one of the / large Islands in Moose River and / evidently from the number of store houses / and residences now abandoned / a large business was done here at / one time by the Hds Bay Company / as this place was a distributing depot / for all the Post[s] along the coast and / for some distance inland, the vessels / conveying stores coming to this post / In addition to the Factory building / there is a Mission Church and / Bishop and curate residences. / the flags at the Factory and mission / were both flying in honor of our / [83] visit. on the high ground opposite / the Dock at wh we landed two / British Brass field guns are mounted / bearing the Coat of Arms of the late / Queen Victoria, also the badge of / the regiment with the motto, “Tria / juncto in uno.”[[10]](#footnote-10) Guns are of the / date of 1843. / [4 blank lines]

There is also a small Hospital / attached to the mission, one trained / nurse also a teacher for the school / that the Bishop has in anticipation / [2 blank lines] [84] [2 blank lines]

Wednesday 9th / At 10 a.m. the representative members / of the Band to the number of 10. / were assembled in an upper Room / of the Hds Bay storehouse. it was then / explained to them that the King / had sent his representatives to them / to make a Treaty, that he wished / them to be happy and prosperous[[11]](#footnote-11) / and that, if they entered into Treaty / they would be protected; also the / King had sent them a present / this year of $8 and would grant / them an annuity per capita / of $4 per annum for all time / [85] that when they were ready for same / schools would be established for / the purpose of educating their children / It was explained that it was / the usual custom to provide a feast / for them after the Treaty was signed / and that Mr Mowatt the Hds Bay / Companys Agent would provide them / with all necessary for their feast / that a Reservation would be set / aside for them, giving each family / of 5 a square mile, that they were / not obliged to live on it until they / felt inclined, that they could follow / their custom of hunting where they please / the area of land simply being set / aside as their own on wh no white / man could trespass or enter upon / [86] without their permission, also they / were expected to elect a chief and / advisors and that the chief on election / would be provided with a flag and / on his enccessor being elected the / flag being a badge or sign of Authority / was to be transferred. /

They were then asked if they had / anything to say. Fred Mark replied / that they had long wished to enter / into Treaty, that they concurred in / all that had been said that it was / right and reasonable. that they were satisfied that they would be / better cared for and protected by / the King. that they would obey his / laws and be good and dutiful / subjects. that under the laws their / [87] children would be protected and / properly educated. that they thanked / the King for the present offered as / they were poor & it would help them

[6 blank lines, one of which showed a child’s prowess with numerals] **6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13**

10.30 a.m. the Treaty was signed. in the / afternoon the Pay lists were carefully / gone into and prepared. / [5 blank lines] [88]

Thursday 10th / At 10 30 a.m. the Indians were / called up in families carefully / counted and paid, in cases / where sickness prevented any of / the family from attendance, in addition to / statements of the parent or parents / the Hds Bay Agent, also the / Curate of the mission, testified / to the correctness of the no of families / and as to the number of same / missing. In the evening the / Band before sitting down to / their feast announced that / they had Elected Fred Mark / as Chief, / James Job, Simon Quachquam / and Simon Cheenas, Councillors / [89]

they were then presented with a / Union Jack as an emblem of / Authority and also to remind them / when they unfurled it on all occasions / when they met in consultation on / receiving visitors that they were / under the protection of the King / and must obeyall his laws. / it was also explained to them / that they must not purchase make / or use liquor in any shape or / form*.* they then sang the doxology / the Bishop leading, afterwards / giving three Cheers forthe King / and three Cheers for the Com- / missioners. Mr McKenzie, Inspector / for this district (Hds Bay Co) / accompanied by Mr Cochrame Agent / [90], who is on leave of absence, at / Fort Albany arrived from / Charlton Island. / [3 blank lines]

Friday 1lth / Mr McKenzie and party left / this Post at 10 a.m. on his / steam Launch Chipman / for his Headqarters wh. is a / supply depot as the vessels from / England land their cargoes there / At 10 30 am the chief and / councillors assembled in the / Dom Com's Tent and we after / a short discussion granted / them the following Reserve, [91]

Reserve Moose Factory / In the Province of Ontario / Beginning at a point on the / east shore of Moose River at south / Bluff Creek, [t]hence south 6 miles / on the East shore of French River / and of sufficient depth to give / an area of 66 square miles. / [blank line]

The Hudson Bay Co. have 26 head / of Cattle at the Post also some / Horses. The mission also have some / cattle and two Fine gardens. / Tame hay, timothy is grown here / by the Company and wild hay / “Red Top” grows in abundance / The Agent Mr Mowatt informed / me that in every instance when / [92] attempted grain failed to mature / the fall frosts nipping the head / while in the milky state.

Saturday 12th / Bidding adieu to Mr Mowatt / and family and others assembled / left the Post with flags flying / the Indians lining the bank / of the river, the brass field / pieces belching forth a salute / as we passedswiftly / [93] up the river, at 12 40 p.m. / the wind being favorable, from / the north, sails were improvised / and after a fair run of / 10 miles camped at the / 1st rapids marked upon the / map. the rapids merely show / the current is a little stronger / with small rocks showing / here and there. it is near / this point that the land / granted as a reserve commences / the timber is very poor, banks / comparatively speaking low / during the afternoon, rain / fell for about an hour / afterwards bright and cool / with occasional hot flashes / [94] when the sun pierced the / clouds. ~~during the afternoon~~ / [blank line]

Sunday 13th / Broke camp at 6.50 a.m. and / commenced polling and where / the shores would permit, tracking / the boats against the strong / current. at 12 n. tied up for / dinner at a small bay named / Stewarts bight. after lunch / running against a very stiff / current at 3 p.m. entered the / Abbittibi River a muddy stream / very rapid around which a / trail runs one mile long over / sharp rocks and boulders. / about one mile long from the head / [95] of the rapids went into camp at / 6 p.m. (during the morning we / met) two men, in a Peterboro canoe, / belonging to the Sulivan Party.

Monday 14th / At 6.50 all being in readiness / for our departure, 3 canoes, con- / taining Messrs Sulivan, Dillon, ~~and~~ / Rogers, and 3 Indians (Mattawa) / name Jocko, Simon and Joe / Leclaire came down the river / and stopped at the shores for / a few minutes. Mr. Sullivan I / regret to say had his throat / and head tied up, suffering from / ~~skin~~ an infection of the skin / under the left ear. the party I / was informed, were looking over the / [96] country, re geology of same, / timber and agricultural possibilities / having had a short conversation, / we parted, the Indians polling / the canoes over rapid / water named Whiskey and Sinker / rapids, passing Red Rock, / and Nivens boundary line[[12]](#footnote-12) / between Nippising and Algoma / tied up for the night at / 6 pm; banks of river slightly / higher. timber in places / burnt and consisting of spruce, balsam / poplar and birch. weather bright / and very warm. [3 blank lines] [97]

Tuesday 15th / left camping ground at 6 45 / a.m. passing up rapids, / stretch after stretch, in some of wh. / owing to the low state of the water / the boulders were to be seen in / the channel almost blocking / same. in fact the boulders in / long rapids rendered the [slern’ing?] / of the current very difficult. / after ascending the rapids tied / up for dinner opposite the / Onakawana river entering from / the west. in the Evg passing up / Blacksmiths rapids the most / rapid water of all encountered / during the day, went into / camp about 1/8 of a mile below / [98] barebone Island. / [3 blank lines]

Wednesday 16 / Struck camp at 7 10 a.m / passing little Abbittibi River that / enters from the East, at 9 00 a.m., / mouth of same is about 200' / wide, shallow and rapid. The / hills a short distance from the / river rise to a height of about / 60' during the afternoon the / Indians polled the canoes against / the rapid water. the party con- / sisting of Messrs Scott, Stewart, / myself ~~and~~, Dr Meindl and / the Dom policemen, Parkinson/ [99] and Vanasse walked a distance / of 4 miles along the shore of the river / over boulders, pebles [sic] and broken / rock, in places climbing the / steep banks and climbing over / fallen timber, to get around / points where the water prevented / from taking the shore route; / during the day, very warm, / evg and morning chilly. / Camped at 6.40 pm on high bank / [2 blank lines]

Thursday 17. / at ~~7~~ 6 30 am. started up the river / continuing the rough walk along / the shore over Clay Falls / and Sextant portages both of wh / [100] are over high ridges, on one of / wh steps have been made to make / the climbing with packs feasible, / arriving at Otter portage at 6 pm / timber along the river in places / burnt. where green is of fair / size, comprised of spruce, balsam / cottonwood, birch and an odd / jackpine Camped at 7. / Packing accident, before reaching end / [1 blank line]

Friday 18 / Arrived at Otter falls at / 7 30 am. the trail here rises / from the river abruptly. Reaching / the summit the trail is in / places rocky others swampy / over wh. pole walks, now / [101] in a state of decay have been / erected in times gone by, by the / H. B. Co. the rapids at the Head / of the falls are divided by a rocky / Island, the water running thro’ / a rocky gorge about 150' wide, / the volume of water alone not / sufficient to warrant water / power of value./

portage is 3 miles long. the boats / and impediments[[13]](#footnote-13) arrived over / the trail at 4 p.m. during / a down pour of rains so camp / was immediately pitched on / the high ground above the head / of the rapids. timber on the trail / burnt. ~~Showing~~ / ~~[1 blank line]~~ [102]

Dr Meindl in addition to attending / to the ailments of the Indians / vaccinated [space] of the Band / [4 blank lines]

Saturday 19th / River above the Falls widens out / and is for a distance not quite / so rapid. morning bright and / cool. left camp at 7 pm. The / river is winding and flanked by / high hills, gradually increasing / in heighth [sic] to little River [New Post Creek], a stream / running in from the west thro’ / a gorge and said to have a / fall upon it of 90 feet, one mile / from New Post at which we / arrived at 3 p.m. Mr Barrett / the manager accompanied us / from Moose factory ./ [3 blank lines] [102] [[3 blank lines]

Sunday 20th / Remained in camp during the / day./ [2 blank lines]

Monday 21st / This morning three of the representative / Indians of the band assembled in / Council and had terms of Treaty / explained to them also the object / of same, that the King had sent / them a present of $8 per capita / for the present year and an / annuity for all time of $4 ~~per~~ [104] provided they accepted the terms / of the treaty, also a reserve or tract / of land would be set aside and / surveyed in the near future for / their sole use and benefit / that they were not obliged to / live on same. were also allowed / as of yore to hunt and fish / where they pleased. that they were / to elect a chief who would advise / the band for the ensuing 3 years / or until a successor was elected / in his stead. the chief would / be presented with a flag as an / emblem of office and reminder / that he and his band had agreed / to become good citizens, and obey / the laws of the land. that Mr / [105] Barrett would issue provisions / for their feast, as this was a / special occasion we wished them / all to be happy and enjoy them / selves. They were then asked thro’ / John Luke who had acted as / Interpreter if they wished to ask any / questions or say any thing in reply / Angus Weenusk, replied that they / accepted the terms as stated and / did not wish to thro’ any ob- / stacles in the way. they were satisfied. the Treaty was then signed / at 10.55 a.m. the Indians then / departed and when the paylists / were completed, commenced / paying the Indians in the afternoon / carefully counting each family as / [106] it appeared before the pay table. / shortly after the pament [sic] had been / completed, the Indians announced / that Esau Omakess was their / choice as chief, who was then / presented with A Union Jack. / ^Heavy thunder storm passed over.^ / Rain falling in torrents at intervals / during the day. In the evening / the chief accompanied by two of the / leading men of the band, consulted / with us re the Reserve and after / consultation the following tract of land / was selected for the New Post Reserve,

Begininng at a Point one mile / south of the north east ^end^ of eastern arm / of Lake known as Taquahtagama or / Big Lake, situated about 8 miles inland / ^south from^ New Post, on the Abitibi River / [107] thence running in a northerly direction / a distance of 4 miles and of sufficient / depth

[At this point the journal is very faded. The original pencil has been erased. Two faint pages follow, there several blank pages, and then more erasures. At the end, upside down, is a half page about Sandy Lake and some child-like drawings. There is also a third of a page of expense account information totaling $40.25.][[14]](#footnote-14)

1. Blue-joint grass or Marsh Reedgrass (*Calamagrostis canadensis)* is a common North American reed grass. It was used by some First Nations as “a mattress stuffing or lining food storage pits.” Marles et al. *Aboriginal Plant Use*, 291. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. MacMartin drew a box around these three words. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The now-pejorative word for an aboriginal woman or wife is derived from various Algonquian words for woman, including Cree *iskwew*. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. We cannot assume that mineral rights were actually mentioned to the Ojibwe. This detail would only concern the Ontario government - and Jabez Williams. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. This would be the syllabary. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Graham states that one dollar bills were used in western Canada for this very reason. *Treaty Days*, 117. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Similarly, in Cree, a treaty chief is *okimahkan* (Ellis “A Note”), while a councillor or small chief is the diminutive form *okimahkanish.* [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. “Good stands of spruce, birch, and poplar line the river but do not extend inland more than a few hundred yards. The general surface of the country is muskeg covered with sphagnum moss, laurel, and Labrador tea, and sparsely studded with stunted spruce.” Dyer “Paleozoic Geology,” 49. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. This appears to be a synonym for “successor,” although I could not find it in the *Oxford English Dictionary*. Margot Charlton of the OED observed, in an email to me dated 11 March 2008, “This seems to be an extremely rare word; a Google search suggests that it has been used in French feudal law (in the form encessor), but I have not found this in dictionaries of Old French, and it may of course be Latin.  So it may be a nonce word.” [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. “Three joined in one” is apparently the motto of the Order of Bath. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. This may be the source of John Fletcher’s 1978 statement to the Royal Commission on the Northern Environment that “the Indians would share the profit and wealth from any resources.” Ojibway-Cree Cultural Centre *Nishnawbe-Aski*, 36. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Alexander Niven (1836-1911) surveyed the northern end of this boundary during the summers 1896-8. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. The meaning here, from the *Oxford English Dictionary*, is “(Chiefly *pl.*) Baggage, esp. of an army.” [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Telephone conversation with archivist Heather Home, Queen’s University, 18 August 2008. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)