

George
Fort. Macdonald Nov
June 20. 1881

Dear Father,

We arrived here today,
after a prosperous trip from Benton,
distance about 230 miles. The mail,
which comes via Benton & Walsh,
also arrived this morning, & as the
only letter received by it is one
from you dated Aug 22nd, I address
these few lines to you. The mail
carrier leaves again this evening, &
as plans for future movements are
not yet made, I can do little more
than chronicle arrival. I have just
been across the river, Oldman's R., to
the Fort, where I have seen Capt. Crozier,

My fingers are tired at times

on the geology yet, & find some of
 my old Tert. area Cretaceous. Party
 now consists, besides Self & McClure
 of 5 men, seven horses, two light
 waggons, 1 cart & 1 buckboard. Intention
 ultimately to divide & go over separate
 ground, but do not know yet whether
 will split up from here or not. Weather
 rather chilly & with occasional showers,
 but now seems favoring up & likely to
 be warm, which a blessing in a
 country with so little wood as this.

On the way from Benton, the stretch
 from the Teton to the Marias is
 absolutely without wood, & again from
 the Marias to the Crossing of Belly R.

about 30 miles from here.

I have a little sheet iron stove which does to look on, with little expenditure of fuel, but - diffuses a cheerful glow about the Camp. There are at present about 5000 Indians ~~at~~ round here, most or all receiving rations from fort. Nothing to be feared from them but some stealing.

I found here a note from C.S. Sargent thanking me for information on trees, & saying that if any institution to which I would like to be the means of supplying a set of woods, to send circular now enclosed, & ask them in writing to mention my name. You

might wish for a set for the College woods. as they will be very useful there. No mail leaves here again for a fortnight, so you cannot hear again for that time, & unless I stop here to be back here in time, not then. I am to all, saying the group in Dawson