

Springdale, Wash.

May, 23. 1899.

~~Dear~~ Mrs. Prior ^{and} Family:-

Lillian has written a few lines to Clemmy so I will also add a few lines as she scarcely ever knows what to say when writing. We find our work pleasant and interesting, not, however, as Lillian counts the interesting part. I couldn't help laughing when reading her letter to think she thought that was so interesting.

Our goods came in better condition than we had expected. Only one glass of jelly broken among all the fruit we packed. Our house is small ^{and} rather inconvenient but Miss Clark expects to leave in June or the early part of July. Then we will have her house ^{and} have all the

room we need. There are a number of cases of sickness among the Indians at present so it has taken much time to visit. They use very poor judgment in taking care of themselves ^{and} it is almost a wonder that they live at all.

Many of them take sweat baths (mentioned in Lillian's letter) then plunge in cold water and go home. But in the settlement, since the missionaries have lived among them they wrap a blanket around themselves before starting for home but the one Lillian referred to lived out about a mile. ~~But~~ It used to be a common thing for them to go about in that condition. The Gospel of Christ has done very much for them.

Since coming here Mr. Allen has rec'd several into the church ^{and} baptized several infants. One baby was not named until he stood ready to baptize it.

Mr. Allen went to Spokane not long

ago to do some trading. He met Mrs. Henry Hall of North Yakima, while there.

It is rather inconvenient to go so far to trade but Springdale is only a very small place ^{and} sometimes after getting there one cannot even get all the common groceries needed so it really pays better to go to Spokane.

We have a garden but the weather has been so cool that every thing is quite late. We also have a cow [&] chickens so it seems as tho we are farmers to a certain extent.

Am now making my own butter. It is time for me to get breakfast so I must hasten to close. This is our mail day so I made an early beginning as I have much writing to do.

— Have been taking charge of the Sabbath school ^{and} find that I need to teach them in even more simple language than I used when teaching

the primary class in our white schools.

So many of our very common words cannot be expressed in the Indian language. Even the grown up Indians are very childish in their nature. One interpreter said Mr. Allen was too high-toned because he couldn't understand all his words.

They have no written language and so cannot read the Bible until they learn the English. All the knowledge they then receive of Christ is what we tell them and live before them. How near we need to live to Christ that we may be able to truly reflect His image.

Pray for us that we may make no mistakes but that we may ever lead them Heavenward. Our love to all the family and kindest regards to all inquiring friends

Yours very truly,
Bertha R. Allen.



Miss Clemmy Prior,
North Yakima,
Wash.

