

well enough to converse with them intelligibly nor obtain interpreters that I could confide in or do their duty faithfully. Could I have spoken the O-jib-wa well I might have got along tolerably well without an interpreter; still one would be necessary in giving religious instruction who could speak the language well. Although superstition, self-interest and infidelity may for the present shut the door of entrance in unto them, yet I shall not and cannot cease to pray that "He who openeth and no *man* shutteth" will soon prepare the way for the gospel to be preached to this interesting but fast degenerating tribe.

April 21st.— Since the most of the above was written I have received your kind favor of March 2nd acknowledging the receipt of my communications. You mentioned respecting my communications last summer as having been received &c. In the one which I now forward you considerable contained in them is repeated, but as I am greatly pressed with business and as it would take considerable of time to rewrite it I have concluded to send it in its present form. I regret that I have not time to copy it and make some alterations, as I have had to make it principally in fragments of time when not obliged to be attending to something else. I hope that this may be a sufficient apology for the many deficiencies which may appear in it.

The decision in respect to the course which was pursued towards Mr. S. &c. was perfectly satisfactory and I am gratified to learn that the Board entertain the same views respecting mission property &c. that I do.

With regard to Mr. Barber¹ you mentioned as having writ-

¹ Rev. Abel Lester Barber was "the first resident minister in Wisconsin to labor under commission from the American Home Missionary Society." Born at Otis, Mass., November 23, 1803, he graduated from Amherst in 1831; entering the ministry, he arrived at Mackinac November 11, 1833, and in July, 1834, went to the Stockbridge mission, afterwards serving at Fort Winnebago and Milwaukee. Later, he became a newspaper editor at Prairieville (Waukesha) and Milwaukee. Davidson, in *Unnamed Wisconsin*, p. 209, note, says "he had certain infirmities of temper that made it almost impossible for others to get on with him." He died at Wallingford, Conn., October 7, 1876.—Ed.