

to make a solemn appeal to them in regard to this matter, and they were distinctly informed, that it was the united opinion of their friends that a radical change should now take place in the employments of their women - that they should be withdrawn from the labors of the field in which they had heretofore been generally employed, and should confine themselves to the business connected with their family and domestic affairs, and that if they would agree to this, we would receive into the family of the Friends stationed among them, as many of their young women as could be accommodated there, and would continue to have them instructed in such business as would qualify them to become good housekeepers, and would also continue to educate as many of their other children as might attend the school; but to these objects, it was our attention, intention, should we continue our connexion with them, hereafter principally confine our attention and labors.

In reply, the Chief appointed to speak on behalf of the Council, after expressing thanks to the Great Spirit for permitting us to meet on this important and interesting occasion, and acknowledging the great satisfaction they felt in seeing us, proceeded to say:

Brothers! On looking over our situation you have thought it not beneficial to our nation that our women should be employed in the field. You have advised us to call them from out-door employments and to direct their attention to household affairs, and we assure you we will endeavor to prevail on them to do so. As we have now said before, will call our women from the field. But their habits have long been fixed, and it may be sometime before they will consent, yet we think in this we shall finally succeed.

We believe the education and elevation of our people will go forward; but this great work must proceed gradually and slowly, because it is difficult to change habits of long standing, and to alter customs handed down from our ancestors.

Brothers! We believe it is true that the Great Spirit has given females a febler frame than men, and that they should not be employed in such things as they are not able to perform. We believe also that if the changes proposed by you should be effected as you desire, we should live happier and be more prosperous as a nation.

Brothers! We are thankful that our friends have not been discouraged in their endeavors to promote our welfare, but will continue their kindness to us.

A Chief from the Allegany Reservation then added:

"On listening to the remarks made by the committee of Friends, we find nothing in them, which, if adopted by us, would not redound to the great happiness of the Indians. When we look round on the situation of our white neighbors, we desire to enjoy the blessings which they so amply possess, - but we are not yet able to obtain them. We feel thankful to our friends for the counsel they have given us, and we believe, if our people will take the advice of the committee, they will find it for their good. We desire that our friends will continue their care, and that they may not be discouraged, if they do not find us to improve as fast as they desire."

"I was once thought a sin against the Great Spirit to send children to school. It is not so now. Many who once entertained that opinion, now send their children to school. We have, at this time, on the Allegany Reservation, five schools. The Friends have often