

416 told us that they believed it was the will of the Great Spirit that they should assist the Indians. If this be their opinion, they need never be discouraged.

The council was then impressively addressed, particularly the females present, by several of our women Friends, who were on the committee, in relation to their domestic arrangements and economy, and especially as regarded the proper care and management of their children, affectionately urging them to more attention to these duties, and shewing them the great advantages that would result from the faithful and judicious discharge of them; their communications were heard with deep attention, and appeared to be impressively felt.

Having visited some of the Indians at their dwellings, and become acquainted with the condition of their houses, and the manner in which many of them live, a concern continued to rest on the minds of our women friends, to prepare a written communication to the Seneca Women, in relation to the appropriate duties which, under the change now contemplated in their situation and employments, would devolve on them.

This they accordingly did, in the following address, which has been printed and circulated throughout the Indian families, viz:-

"Sisters! The chiefs of your nation have told us that they are disposed to promote the improvement of your people, by allowing you to withdraw from the labors of the field, in order that you may attend more closely to the duties properly belonging to your sex.

"Sisters! We earnestly and affectionately desire that you may

417 industriously and faithfully fulfil these duties. To some of them we ask your particular attention. We believe cleanliness, both in our houses and persons, to be necessary to our health. When this is properly attended to, it makes our homes comfortable and greatly promotes the happiness of our families. When the women learn to sew, and spin and knit, they become qualified to make useful garments, and also to mend them when necessary - so that all the members of the family may have comfortable and decent clothing. To have a place for every thing in use about your houses, and to keep every thing in its proper place, saves a great deal of trouble, and makes household duties easy and pleasant. When the men bring home food for the family, it is the duty of the women to have it properly prepared for the table, and to see that it is not wasted. By proper attention to this duty, our men are saved from much unnecessary labor, and they are encouraged to provide well for our comfort and for the comfort of our children. It is also the duty of the women to teach their children how they should behave themselves, and to instruct them how to walk in the right way, to see that they go regularly to school, and that they are cleanly dressed and properly fitted out to go there. When children are young they are much under the care of their mothers - they look to them for example, and it requires great patience and prudence to train them, so as to make them good men and women when they grow up. We know that these are very important duties - but we believe that when, in sincerity of heart, you look to the Great Spirit, he will enable you to perform them, so that you may look forward in hope, that your children may be a blessing to you in your old age, and become qualified to carry on the great work of imp-