

had hitherto been. Upon the adjournment of the Council, many of the men, as well as of the women, who were present as spectators, came forward and took leave of us with warm expressions of the satisfaction they felt at once more seeing their old friends.

We remained almost four days on the Reservation, during which time we visited a number of the families, who appeared to have about them many of the conveniences of civilized life. The women were employed in their domestic concerns, and we did not see one female at work in the fields, nor did we see an intoxicated Indian during the time we were with them. The men have, very generally, cast off their ancient Indian costume, and nearly all the young females have adopted the dress of their white neighbors.

A considerable number of comfortable dwelling-houses have been erected on the Cattaraugus Reservation since our visit there in the year 1846. The road we travelled at that time (after entering upon their lands at Silver Creek) passed in many places through an almost unbroken forest to the settlement around the Council House. We now found the lands on both sides of this road cleared, and divided into cultivated farms, with substantial fences and comfortable framed dwelling-houses, neatly painted, with commodious barns, fruitful orchards, and cultivated gardens. They were generally supplied with necessary stock and farming implements, and, without exception, their oxen and horses were in good condition. Their land is exceedingly fertile, and we were informed yields from forty to sixty bushels of corn to the acre.

After our business had been concluded, we were informed that it was the desire of the Indians we should have a parting interview with their young people, and that before we left them they would be collected to meet us at the house of a chief. We could not refuse this request, and at the time appointed we were met by nearly sixty of them. Both the young men and the girls were neatly dressed, and they all behaved with great propriety. The interview was a deeply interesting one. We took the

opportunity to give them some of our views on their advanced civilization, and the duties it devolved on them, particularly in the female department, to which they listened with respectful attention. In conclusion, an aged and respectable Indian Chief, who had come to take leave of us, expressed his full approbation of all we had said, and acknowledged the great satisfaction he felt at being with us at that time.

The House intended for an orphan Asylum is now under construction, and will be roofed within a few days. It is a commodious building, and will accommodate fifty children, with their necessary care-takers.

All ready they have collected nine children, who had been left entirely destitute and in a perishing condition, but now are well taken care of.

In our return homeward we passed through the Allegany Reservation, where there appears to have been less improvement in the condition of the land.

By a recent Report made to the New-York Legislature by their Committee on Indian Affairs, we learn that on the Cattaraugus Reservation there are seven schools, in six of which the number of registered scholars is 255, of whom the number that attend averages 163. The number that attend the seventh is not stated; and that on the Allegany Reservation there are seven schools, in five of which the number of registered scholars is 145, and the average number which attend is 106. Of the other two schools in that Reservation, the number of scholars is not given.

All the same Report, to the Legislature of New-York, it is stated that "The Indians on the Cattaraugus Reservation are far in advance of their neighbors, as are also a part of the Alleganians. — Their farms are tolerably cultivated; their dwellings begin to assume an air of comfort, and industry and thrift are every where apparent." * * * "Notwithstanding the ravages of disease and death, in their most aggravated forms, and the emigration of a portion of them to the west, the Senecas have increased since 1852 about 18 per cent. more than they were 25 years ago." * * * "On the Cattaraugus Reservation for several miles, buildings, fences, crops and stock, as also the comfortable appearances of their houses and well-ordered interior arrangements, indicate that the