

1859 the Yearly Meetings of New York and Baltimore continue to be gradually improving in their domestic and social habits and comforts; and it appears, a considerable number of them, who are become industrious farmers now occupy good houses, and having a sufficient number of horses and cattle, and agricultural implements to cultivate their farms, are enabled to provide the necessary support for their families, but they represent that they are in great need of aid to assist them in the education of their youths, and more especially to enable them to continue to support their Orphan Asylum which Institution during the past year, had, and now has fifty four destitute children under its care.

In a communication recently received from the United States Interpreter at Cattaraugus, who is an intelligent educated Seneca, referring to the present condition of many of the Indians on that Reservation, he says: "They cannot be considered, or looked upon, as inferior to their white neighbors around them, in the management of their farms, but all this improvement must, in a great measure be attributed to the good people of the land, and to the true Friends of the Indian, for their patient endurance and perseverance in endeavoring to instruct them in learning and agriculture. It was they who established among them Schools for the education of their children, that they might no longer be brought up in ignorance but be instructed in learning, and hence the value of education is becoming more and more important among them".

There are now upon the Cattaraugus Reservation seven schools in operation, and the whole of attendants is about three hundred. These schools for the most part are in a flourishing condition, and they would compare favorably with the white schools in the adjacent localities. Under these circumstances we have reason to believe they are constantly increasing; and are improving in morals and industry, and that in proportion as they become enlightened, they will provided they continue to pursue the same course they have for the last fifty years, surely reap the reward of their industry.

"These Indians no longer rely upon the chase for their sustenance but by the sweat of their brows, and the labor of their hands; are faithfully fulfilling the edict pronounced to man upon his creation 'in the sweat of thy face shall thou eat bread'".

The crops of all kinds upon this Reservation look fine, but the corn has been somewhat injured by the frost, yet it is hoped that there will be no suffering for want of provision.

The Committee also report, That upon information being laid before the commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington in relation to the present condition and necessities of the Orphan Asylum at Cattaraugus, he contributed and forwarded \$500 for the aid of that Institution; and further that, on the Commissioner being likewise informed that an Indian of good character who had by a regular apprenticeship, acquired a sufficient knowledge of the Blacksmith Trade, was desirous to establish a shop and carry on that business at the Cattaraugus Reservation, but needed the sum of \$104. to enable him to procure the requisite tools and implements, he promptly contributed that sum for him and directed this amount to be forwarded to him.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Committee by
Samuel W. Janney
Deborah H. Haller

Baltimore 10th Month 30th 1859

The condition of some of our Indian Brethren now residing west of the Mississippi having been feelingly brought before the view of the Meeting, our committee on Indian Concerns was authorized, in conjunction with the committee of the New York Yearly Meeting, if they feel a willingness to act therein, respectfully to invite the attention of the General Government of the United States to the subject, as way may open therefor, with the view to an improvement of the condition of those Indian Tribes, in as much as the evidence of their capability of civilization, is afforded by our experience at Cattaraugus.

The Representatives were requested to confer together at the close of this sitting, and propose to our next, the names of suitable Friends to serve this Meeting as clerk and assistant clerk, the present year.

Then adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon.