

1873 The ancient customs of the race still, in a great measure, regulate the continuance and dissolution of the marriage relation. Horse-stealing cannot be properly punished on the reservations; the military object to receiving the offenders for punishment, and Government prisons are not open for them. Agency laws are sufficient only for punishment of small crimes.

On the 9th month last, B. Rush Roberts and Thos. W. Matthews were appointed by this Committee to visit the Pawnee in Nebraska and in the Indian Territory. Their report is hereto appended.

The Treasurer of the Indian Fund reports receipts for the present year \$724.67, which, with the balance on hand from last year of \$134.82, amounts to \$859.51, and expenditures in the Indian Service this year have been \$700.77, leaving a balance of \$158.74.

A larger expenditure for clothing of Indian school children will be needed the ensuing year, and we recommend an appropriation of \$500 for the use of the Committee.

B. Rush Roberts, Clerk.

To the Committee on the Indian Concern of Baltimore
Dear Sirs:

The Committee appointed last 9th Month to visit the Pawnee Indians in Nebraska and the Indian Territory respectfully report that they left their respective homes on the 27th of 9th month and proceeded to Omaha where they arrived on the 1st day of 10th month, and spent one day in consultation and council with Superintendent Barclay White. On the 2nd we arrived at Genoa (the Pawnee Reservation). On the 3rd, being the First day of the week, we attended the First-day School and Meeting, both of which were conducted with proper decorum and the exercises, which were in the nature of advice and counsel to the children, and encouragement to the laborers, from the Committee, and the Agent and his wife.

We were highly gratified with, and encouraged by an address of Elizabeth Burgess to the children on the subject of the discontinuance of the school for an indefinite time, and of their earnest desire that they might soon meet again in their new home, where provision would be made as soon as possible to recall them to the care of their teachers and protectors.

1873 The Committee feel at liberty to state that a marriage engagement that had been made between an interesting and worthy girl of the tribe, and an Indian of good character, had been postponed by the influence of Elizabeth Burgess (on account of the youthfulness of the girl) for a year or more. It was now decided that this engagement should be solemnized while the Committee was there, and before the parties should leave for their new home; and this was accordingly carried out by Friends' ceremony in our presence, and that of a large number of Indians, who manifested a deep interest in the event, after which the young couple were feelingly addressed on the importance of their new relations to each other. The certificate was signed by the parties in their own hand writing, and also by a large number of their friends, Indians and others, as witnesses, and a more ardently conducted marriage it has not been our privilege to witness. At the close of the last fiscal year, 6th month, 30th 1873, the day schools were all closed, and the Industrial school on the 30th of 9th month, and the salaries of the teachers and other employees appropriated to the purposes of feeding the Indians and making preparations for their final removal to the Indian Territory.

The Indians remaining (numbering between four and five hundred, most of whom are children, or old and infirm people) appeared to be excited on the advice given them last spring by members of the Board of Indian Commissioners and their agent, to plant all the corn and vegetables they could, and gather their crops before departing south, that they might have food on their way down. Agent Burgess reports that most of the ally-told men have worked well, and the farmer assures us that nearly all the labor in producing and gathering the large crops raised on the Reservation the past summer has been performed by Indians; and the amount of dried sweet corn and pumpkins which we saw stored in some of their lodges shows that they have not been idle. The products of the agency farm, on about 600 acres, have been reported or estimated to us, and from personal inspection we are inclined to believe that the corn is estimated considerably below what it will probably yield, as follows: Rye, 1000 bushels; wheat, 3000; corn estimated, 3000; potatoes 1700; oats 2000; and buckwheat 50 bushels.