

Friends convened agreeably to adjournment.

A proposal contained in the report from Sunning's Creek Quarterly Meeting for a change in the manner of holding that meeting, being now read and considered, is referred to the following friends to report their judgment in the case to a future sitting, viz: Joseph King Jr., John Scott, Rile Bond, Joseph Canby, Elisha Cook, Samuel Worthington & Joseph Walawa.

The minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings were produced, read & approved.

The following interesting Report from our Standing Committee on Indian Concerns was now read & approved - and our Quarterly & Monthly Meetings are directed to raise the sum therein mentioned as our contribution in support of the establishment among the Shawanese, & pay the same into the hands of Joseph King Jr., Treasurer of the Committee.

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee charged with the concern of the Yearly Meeting for the Civilization & Christian instruction of the Indians, report:

That a letter was received last spring from our Superintendent, Henry Harvey & wife, containing satisfactory information of the general condition of the establishment among the Shawanese: but there appearing a want of some articles for the school & for the comfort of the children, steps were taken to interest some of our young friends of Baltimore in the subject, who cheerfully undertook & made a collection for that purpose, with which they provided a considerable lot of shoes, books, stoves, dry goods, ready-made clothing, pen knives &c. &c. amounting in value to about one hundred dollars. These goods we have now duly received & proved to be very acceptable to our Superintendent & the children under their charge.

Soon after the receipt of the above information from Henry Harvey & wife, the Committee taking into consideration the change which had occurred recently in the administration of the general government of the United States, believed it right to address a communication to the Secretary of War, on the subject of the concern of the Society & of our establishment among the Shawanese, which was forwarded to him in the 6th month last, & with his reply, is as follows:

To John Bell, Secretary of War, Washington, D.C.

Respected Friend:

We take the liberty of laying before thee in this way, some particulars relative to our efforts as a religious community for the Civilization & Christian instruction of the Shawanese Indians. We do this for the purpose of introducing ourselves in connexion with our concern to the more familiar knowledge of the War Department

as now organized, with a desire to enjoy the approbation & confidence of its present incumbent, as we have had that of his predecessors, with whom we have corresponded & had personal intercourse on this subject.

As far back as the year 1810, our interest was especially manifested for this tribe of Indians. They were then located at Wangkanghennetta, a tract of country now within the limits of the State of Ohio. Their condition was at that period any thing but what the Christian or Philanthropist could wish. Poor, degraded, ignorant & uncomfortable, they were just such objects of compassion as their race usually exhibits, where no judicious hand of benevolence has been extended for their help. Under these circumstances we planted an establishment among them for their Civilization & Christian instruction, which continued to subsist under the joint control & care of three Yearly Meetings of the Society of Friends, viz: the Baltimore, the Ohio, and the Indiana, with much beneficial consequence to these Indians, until they were removed under the auspices of the government at Washington to most of the Mississippi. This removal, however, neither blotted out our kindness from their grateful recollections, nor extinguished our religious solicitude for their welfare. Accordingly, we followed them to their new home, & with much pains & at considerable expense, have revived among them another establishment, designed to promote their Civilization & advancement in Christian knowledge & practice.

This establishment situated near the Sandus River, is likewise under the joint control & care of the three before mentioned Yearly Meetings. It was begun in the year 1825, & has been increasing in prosperity up to the present time. It is conducted under the immediate direction of a Superintendent (Henry Harvey) and various assistants, and consists of a farm under cultivation with a number of buildings upon it, one of which is occupied for a school, where, by late accounts, 40 Indian children of both sexes are receiving mental & moral tuition. The males are likewise taught agriculture, and the females housewifery, and are clothed & fed at our expense. Of these children 13 are motherless, 9 fatherless, & 3 altogether parentless; these descriptions of youth having been expressly & in preference selected for our purposes by the Indians themselves. The labors of our Agents in reference to these interesting objects, have been attended with successful & highly encouraging results. The children are represented as being commendably tractable; smart, apt to learn & industrious, having made various attainments in their intellectual pursuits.

It is a satisfaction to us to be able to state, that our establishment enjoys the very decided confidence of the Indians whom we