

have thus undertaken to befriend & improve, and we have a hope that its influence will prove useful in cultivating among the Shawnee, a respectful & conciliatory feeling towards the United States government. We have ever considered these Aborigines as peculiar objects of commiseration & benevolence. Injured as they undoubtedly have been in a variety of ways by the white man, - sunk in ignorance & poverty & wretchedness, and a prey to their own want of self-government, - we look at them with emotions of sympathy & deem them conspicuous subjects for philanthropic aid. Could our voice avail, we should plead for them with those "that are in authority" that they would endeavor to exercise toward them the generous bearing of a Christian government; of a government having the welfare of all its subjects at heart without distinction, remembering the persecuted for kindness & for good. The Lord of Lords & Ruler of Rulers has set this for the peculiar aim & glory of the Civil Power, & we ardently desire that through the help of his Holy Spirit, & his blessing resting upon its councils & endeavors, the new administration at Washington may be for the prosperity of the country, the protection and joy of the oppressed, & the honor of the Messiah's religion.

Signed by direction, & on behalf of the Committee of Indian Concerns for Baltimore Yearly Meeting, held the 17th of the 6th month, 1841, by

Samuel Carey, Clerk
Reply to the above.

Department of War, Washington, June 26. 1841.

I have had the honor to receive your communication of the 19th inst., on the subject, of the establishment planted by the Baltimore, Ohio & Indiana Yearly Meetings, of the Society of Friends, among the Shawnee Indians, for their civilization & Christian instruction.

I am much gratified to learn from your statement, that your institution is in such successful operation, & that you unite with instruction in letters & books, the useful, if not indispensable accompaniment of knowledge in agriculture for the males & of housewifery for the females. It is upon this plan that we can count most certainly for results, if it be not the only channel in which benevolence can flow to any good end.

The number of scholars proves that the necessary inclination on the part of the Indians is not wanting, & that they repose just confidence in a Society always remarkable for its disinterested efforts to render aid where most required.

It will give me pleasure to second your exertions, and to learn from time to time that your good prospects continue of ameliorating the Indian

condition, which is as it ought to be, a great object with the Department, as well as with the benevolent individuals & associations, whose aid must contribute so largely to the consummation of our common purposes.

Very respectfully, &c

John Bell.

By a Report received from the Committee of Indiana Yearly Meeting, who are charged with the active duties of the concern, dated the 14th of 8th month last, we are informed, that our school among the Indians has been regularly continued during the past year, consisting of 32 regular scholars & 4 who are irregular in their attendance.

About the time of attending & gathering their corn crop, the school was reduced to 25 scholars: at other times it has been increased to 36. There are 6 who read in the Bible & 9 in the Testament - the rest except 4 read in easy lessons & spell; 14 write & learn the art of figured.

The Meeting has been kept up, except when sickness in the family has prevented. On first days a few of the Indians frequently attend, whose deportment therein is orderly & the children behave well.

At 8 o'clock in the morning the school is opened by the family being collected & a portion of the Holy Scriptures read by the Superintendent, after which the school exercises commence.

The expenses for three quarters ending 31st of 7th month last reported by the superintendent, are as follows: For sundry articles of clothing for the children provided before those sent by Friends had arrived, for freight storage, plough, pork, live hog, &c, nails to enclose additional land to the farm & other incidental expenses (the items of which are mentioned) - - - - \$417.30

In addition to the above there has been a lodging room put up for the boys, the cost of which for boards, nails, &c was \$12 - the work being done by the Superintendent & family. Sixty five acres of Prairie land have been added to the farm. There are 35 head of cattle belonging to the establishment, 11 of which give milk. This number includes 8 recently purchased by the Superintendent & paid for by Friends of West Branch Quarterly Meeting, Indiana, except \$15 - There are also 60 Hogs, 30 of which are intended for meat the ensuing year.

This season there have been grown & gathered 640 dozens of wheat, and 700 of Oats cut by the Superintendent, & bound & put in sheath by the Indian boys of the school. There are 34 acres of Indian Corn growing, which looks well for the season.

Two hundred sixty one dollars & seventy five cents have been received for produce raised on the farm, & from travellers since last year - a considerable quantity of Corn being yet on hand.