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To Baltimore Yearly Meeting

The Com^o on Indian concerns Report: That during the past year they have had under appointment a Sub Com^o, who were charged with the duty of endeavoring to devise some means for preventing the introduction & use of ardent spirits among the Indian natives. They have addressed the several Indian Com^os of other Yearly Mts, upon the subject & also corresponded with our Superintendent among the Shawnees, United States agent. The result of which was laid before the Com^o of Congress upon Indian affairs of last session.

A bill was reported by it & passed both Houses, which contains some very important advances in our legislation. By it an Indian is made a competent witness against a white man in prosecutions of violations of the statute prohibiting the introduction of ardent spirits into the Indian country. Imprisonment is also added to the fine which had previously been the penalty.

Excellent however as the law may be & perhaps effectual in its operation among those tribes who reside at some distance from the State Government, it has been found quite ineffectual among those who live near the state line, as is the case with the Shawnees & our Com^o is still continued in charge of the subject.

There without any report from our friends of Ohio a Indiana of the present condition of our Establishment. Our friend Thomas Bell, the late Superintendent being now with us has furnished us with the following account which we submit:

The school has been kept up without vacation the past year & about 64 children of both sexes belonging to four tribes viz: Shawnees, Delawares, Stockbridges & Ottawa have received instruction in reading writing arithmetic & geography & the pupils have made satisfactory progress. The hours set apart for school are 7 in each day, except 7th day afternoon, part of which is given them for their own recreation. The time not occupied in the school rooms is devoted to manual labor: the boys are employed in all the branches of husbandry & the girls at housewifery & their services rendered to the institution in this way are considerable. During the winter evenings the larger children are exercised in declaiming & composition & such evenings which are not set apart for this purpose are devoted to the recitation of geography, in both of which they take a deep interest & this has been of use to them in removing that natural & by no means characteristic of the Indian.

All unnecessary labor on the first day of the week is avoided, that day being set apart for the improvement of the mind; about

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two hours in the morning before meeting is devoted to committing Scripture passages to memory & many recite from 15 to 30 verses & are expert in answering Scripture Questions. In the afternoon they have access to a Library provided for their use to encourage them in private reading. After supper all the family collect in the meeting room to spend the evening in reading the dying sayings of pious persons & other religious exercises which seem to present at that hour as a duty to be performed & not unfrequently such seasons have been owned by the good presence of the great Shepherd, even to the contributing of the spirits of both children & teachers & the good effects of resolutions formed in those opportunities have been seen in their general deportment for many days after.

The daily family reading of a portion of Scripture accompanied with a suitable pause before & after reading has been observed & sometimes a few remarks are made on the leading features of the Chapter read, which are listened to with apparent attention; not unfrequently a few Indians are present with us on occasions of this kind whose decent & orderly deportment does them much credit. A meeting for worship has been regularly kept up twice in each week & some few Indians continue their attendance: the solid manner in which the Indians both children & adults sit, is satisfactory to the family & a source of admiration to casual visitors from the State. The Queries recommended by Indiana Yearly Meeting to be answered Quarterly & forwarded in the reports of the Superintendents have been attended to and afford encouragement to believe that these regulations will have their use both on the minds of the Indian children & the young friends engaged by the Com^o to carry on the concern. Such of our Indian neighbors who are present with us during the time of worship also keep their seats & on being informed of the object of this discipline, seem both pleased & interested.

We have a farm of about 200 acres of land under fence, 132 of which are under cultivation, from which have been raised the past year about 1530 dozens of Wheat & 900 dozens of Oats, both of which are very good; there are also 60 acres planted in Corn & 3 acres in garden vegetables, both are said to be good crops. The farm is well stocked with horses, cows, sheep & hogs & from the proceeds of the farm the family is supplied with provisions & considerable remains for sale say about \$400, which is appropriated to the wants of the household & farm.

The new building 70 feet by 36, three stories high, then