

Report of the Committee on Indian Affairs

Baltimore, 11th month, 5th 1889

To the Representative Meeting of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.
The Committee on Indian Affairs report:

That there has been encouraging progress of Friends work among the Indians during the past year.

The annual meeting of the Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs was held at Marion, Ind. Sixth Month 28th 1889. The appointment of a Superintendent for the work in Indian Territory, made the previous year, has been satisfactory, and Charles W. Kirk was continued in that service for another year.

The number of established Friends Meetings in the Indian Territory has increased, the membership has been enlarged, and the number of pupils in the schools has been greater. Recent reports show 507 members of Friends Meetings in the Indian Territory, an increase over the previous year of 122. It is believed that no other part of the evangelizing work of the Society of Friends has been attended with more obvious spiritual results than that among the Indians. White's Institute, Indiana, and five day Schools in the Indian Territory have received aid through the Associated Committee, and have had a joint enrollment of 230 pupils. Great progress has been made towards the civilization of the Indians since this Committee was first organized. Out of about 25,000 Indian children of school age, there were enrolled last year in schools of all kinds, chiefly those supported by the Government, over 15,000 or about one third of the whole. The proportion of Indians engaged in some form of useful industry has increased, and the public feeling throughout our nation towards them is much more friendly and hopeful.

Our Friend Benjamin F. Coppock has just been appointed to have charge of the Government school at Chilocco, Indian Territory, with 300 Indian children and nearly 8,000 acres of land, with all the useful buildings, implements and stock.

Rejoicing in all that the Lord has wrought for their well being, and grateful for what he has accomplished hitherto through the agency of Friends, the Committee desire that interest in this cause may not be unduly displaced by new enterprises, and recommend that the usual

appropriation be made by our Yearly Meeting towards the expense of the associated Executive Committee.

Signed Francis A. King

Signed James Carey Thomas.

31 James Carey, Mary S. Edge, Joseph T. Elliott and Elizabeth Pleasant, were appointed to bring forward the name of a suitable Friend to fill the vacancy in this Meeting, representation in the Representative Meeting, and report to a future sitting.

32 The subject of the revision of the Discipline was referred to the Representative Meeting, and they were directed to report to next Yearly Meeting what revision, in their judgement, if any, is necessary.

33 A Memorial, prepared by Western Yearly Meeting to the Conference of Delegates of the Independent States of America, and endorsed by Indiana Yearly Meeting, was read, and the Clerk was directed to endorse it on behalf of the Yearly Meeting, and the Representative Meeting was directed to unite with other Yearly Meetings to have it suitably presented. It is as follows:

Memorial of the Society of Friends

To the Conference of Delegates of the Independent States of America to be held at Washington:

"We address you in the name of Him whose advent to earth was heralded by the Anthem 'Peace on earth & good will to men'. We accept that He who rules in the heavens and guides the thoughts and hearts of men, has led you as statesmen and delegates of the Independent States of America, to meet in council in Washington, to adjust international interests on a basis of fraternity, equality, justice, and reciprocity. Prophets of old have told us of a time when nations shall learn war no more. May you be instruments in the Divine hands to begin the fulfillment of this prophecy.

It will be a joyous day when the commerce of the nations can cross ocean and sea, and none shall make afraid, when mutual confidence and fraternal reciprocity shall turn the vast expenditures for armaments to the aid of peaceful productive industry, to feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and making happy homes.

All the independent American nations can trace their ancestry to the various nations of Europe, Asia, and Africa. We are bound to them by our blood. War claims for its service the best talent, bone, and sinew of earth. The pride of the thousand families are, year by year, laid on its altar.