

than Five hundred miles, during which time they had visited a number of their hunting Camps, and several of their Villages, and had large opportunity of becoming acquainted with their present situation, which they found to be often exposed to the inclemencies of the seasons, with a very precarious and frequently very scanty supply of food and cloathing, and the Committee were of the opinion, that unless these people can be prevailed on to change their present mode of living, they must in a few years, from the increasing scarcity of game, be reduced to a state of extreme want and distress, and in order to awaken their minds to reflection upon this subject, they had addressed a communication to the Wyandots on the Great Miami, and the Delawares on the Sandusky, endeavouring to excite them to turn their attention to the cultivation of the Earth for a support, and offering them some assistance towards effecting so desirable a change in their mode of living.

1798

The Committee having received an application from some Delaware Indians on the Muskingum for assistance, and having taken

into consideration the particular circumstances of these people, concluded to furnish them with a few tools, and implements of husbandry for their immediate use.

1799

The Committee having received a pressing invitation from the Wyandots at Upper Sandusky, to visit them, appointed several of their number for that purpose, four of whom attended to the service, and after passing several Indian Villages, arrived at that Town, near about the time imposed by the Indians. Upon conferring with Tarbie and other chiefs there, it was discovered, that the meeting of the General Council, to which Friends had been invited, would not take place for more than two weeks, and the Committee having ascertained that it would not be practicable to obtain food for themselves and horses until that time, concluded it would be best to propose to Tarbie a conference with him and the other chiefs who were then at Sandusky, which was accordingly agreed to, and the Committee had a full opportunity of communicating to these people the prospects and views of Friends relative to them, to which the Indians gave close attention,