

that you may have the satisfaction to find your families all well and in our name take the old people and all our brothers the Quakers by the hand, and that we will bless the good works in which you are engaged.

We were informed by Colonel McPherson who has charge of these Indians as assistant United States agent and who resides within a few miles of the village, that they have more than 500 acres of land under good fences the whole of the rails having been split and put up by themselves without any assistance - that they have 200 acres planted in corn and that many of them have good gardens: He also stated that they have about 70 head of cattle some hogs and a very sufficient stock of horses. Colonel McPherson further stated to us that these Indians had uniformly conducted themselves extremely well, were generally very industrious and for a considerable time past had been free from intoxication. He also informed us that there is a good mill seat convenient to the village which may be improved at a moderate expense.

From a view of the foregoing statement it will be perceived that the general indisposition which prevails amongst the Indians to labour, at the time when friends first embarked in this concern, and the strong prejudices which many of them manifested against civilization have been overcome, we therefore cannot but believe that the principal obstacles which for a considerable time retarded our success amongst these people are in a

17 great measure removed, and that the way is now open for friends by steady perseverance and a judicious application of the aid which we may have it in our power to extend to them to effect the most important and beneficial results amongst them, we are therefore united in the hope that friends will endeavour to keep under the weight of this truly benevolent concern and be prepared by a lively attention to it to ~~embrace~~ every opening that may present to promote the highly interesting object in view.

Jonathan Taylor

James Elliott

Philip E. Thomas

Short Creek 7 Mo 2 1816

P.S. It was our united prospect whilst at Wau-paukannetta that it would be most suitable, to place a man and his wife at that settlement, to take charge of the mill, and instruct the Indians in their farming and domestic concerns, and that the committee of Ohio Yearly Meeting be authorised to engage them by the time the mill is finished.