

1845/1846

one has failed to learn them at the end of the term. Only four of the whole number have attended regularly through. These read in words of four letters.

It will be seen that all the classes have not been particularly noted in the above, because the report is written in such a way that each class noticed comprehends one or two others studying different branches. Irregularities in attendance have arisen from various causes. The fruitful summer brings with it greater temptations for children to ask leave of absence from school of their parents than the winter. And parents, in a community no more enlightened than this, and where the tribal affairs lie in so perplexing a state, are apt to show greater lenity to children, and indifference to privileges, than others. The trustees and school commissioners are, however, in no way discouraged, but rather the contrary. As long as a pleasant home and a fruitful soil keep and support a people gradually rising in learning and industry, they must necessarily come to maturity, though the work of perfection be slow.

JOHN N. CHICKS,
JEREMIAH SLINGERLAND,
School Commissioners.

No. 29.

ONEIDA WEST MISSION, DUCK CREEK,
July 30, 1846.

SIR: I herewith present you my annual report for the year ending July 31, 1846. I did not arrive at this mission until the last of November; and, having much to do to prepare for winter, I was unable to begin the school until the 12th day of January; since which time it has been taught regularly (except the usual vacations of spring and summer) five months lacking five days. The whole number of pupils that have attended is 45—males 20, females 25; 10 are over 13 and under 18 years of age; 7 are under 5; the rest are between the ages of 5 and 13; 2 study arithmetic, 9 write, 7 are in their letters, and the remainder are learning to read and spell only. The English language only has been taught; 8 have attended this school that belong to the first Christian party. The children board with their parents. There seems to be an increasing interest in the school. The children have made as good proficiency as could be expected under the circumstances. Most of them discover a disposition and capacity to learn. We regret that their attendance is so irregular as greatly to hinder their progress in learning. I have tried different ways to overcome this evil, but with little success as yet.

We started a temperance society at this mission on the 20th of April last. We now have on the list 90 names—all men and women but 8 or 10. Only 4 or 5, as yet, have been reported as guilty of violating their pledge; and these will be reformed, if possible, by the labors of the committee appointed to that work. We are quite confident of success in our temperance enterprise, for the chiefs of this party are the leading men in it.

This nation suffers greatly from the sale of intoxicating drinks at the town of Green Bay. No dram-shop is allowed in the nation. Large, or-

derly, and attentive congregations attend the church at this mission regularly on the Sabbath. As I have been here so short a time, I am not prepared to say much concerning the improvement of the people generally.

Submitted by your humble servant,

CURTIS G. LATHROP,

Methodist Episcopal Missionary at Duck creek.

Hon. A. G. ELLIS,

Indian Agent at Green Bay.

No. 30.

ONEIDA MISSION, DUCK CREEK,
Wisconsin Territory, September 2, 1846.

SIR: The school at this station has been continued during the past year. Average number of scholars, 30—one-half being females. The children have been instructed in the common branches of education; their improvement is highly satisfactory. The school and mission enjoy the patronage of the domestic committee of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal church, who have expended for its support, from the 1st of October last, the sum of \$275. The number employed in the mission is four—myself, wife, teacher, and interpreter.

According to the census of last year, the whole number of the tribe is 720. Over 500 of this number belong to the first Christian party of Oneida, and are under my charge. A large majority of them are sober and industrious in their habits. As a tribe, they have abandoned the chase and are depending entirely upon the cultivation of the soil for subsistence.

I am, sir, your friend and most obedient servant,

SOLOMON DAVIS.

A. G. ELLIS, Esq.,

United States Sub-agent, Green Bay.

No. 31.

Annual report of the Catholic Mission Schools of the Little Chute, Fox river, and Pawagan, at the Wolf river, Wisconsin Territory.

Theodore J. Vanden Broek, principal; established for the benefit of the Menomonic Indians; from September, 1845, to September, 1846.

The Roman Catholic sect of Menomonies, who are living at the lake of Pawagan, and some of whom at the Little Chute on Fox river, and at Green Bay, are in number about 350. They are not much acquainted with the English language, of which it is not intended to keep them ignorant, as is erroneously supposed, but because they are usually wont to converse with French missionaries. Their intercourse in civil and religious business is most commonly with French people; moreover, their books of religion are all written in their own language, so that there exists in