

THE
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TO THE
Northern Missionary Society

OF THE
STATE OF NEW-YORK,
FOR THE YEAR 1811.

With other interesting Information

RESPECTING THE STATE AND PROGRESS OF THE
Mission among the Nation of Oneida Indians.

EXTRACTED FROM
THE JOURNAL OF THE MISSIONARY,
The Rev. William Jenkins.

ALBANY:

PRINTED BY WEBSTERS AND SKINNERS.

1811.

Northern Missionary Society.

At an Annual Meeting of the NORTHERN MISSIONARY SOCIETY of the State of New-York, held in Waterford, on the 4th of September, A. D. 1811,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to publish the Report of Directors ; extracts from Mr. Jenkins' Journal ; extracts from the Reports of Departments, with the number of Members of which they consist ; the names of the Officers of the Society for the current year, and of Committees ; together with such other matter as they may deem proper—And that Messrs. M'Jimsey, Bradford and Willett, be that Committee.

Annual Report of the Directors.

With grateful hearts the Board of Directors acknowledge the Lord's goodness in smiling upon their feeble efforts to spread the renowned name of Jesus to any of their fellow men ; yet still they have to lament that their exertions have had so little success.—They therefore submit to the Society the following statement of facts, which have occurred during the past year.

The Committee appointed to repair to Oneida to investigate the evil reports which were circulated against the character of your Missionary residing at Oneida, repaired thither ; and after a faithful examination of witnesses found every part of the conduct of the Rev. William Jenkins, both in public and private, to be in all respects worthy of the trust the Society have reposed in him ; and for a more full and satisfactory account of the trial, the Society are referred to the report of the said Committee.

Mr. Jenkins continues indefatigable in the discharge of his duties as Minister, Catechist, and Schoolmaster, at Oneida and Sugasselow, among the Indians ; and his labors are acceptable, and, we hope, blessed to many of them—He has acquired such a knowledge of their language as to be able not only to converse with them, but also, at several times, to preach to them in their own tongue. And it is with pleasing emotions they learn that a number of the young Indians have given evidences of

deep convictions of their lost condition by nature ; and that there seems in Oneida to be an increasing attention to the duties of the Sabbath.

The Board having in October last considered the additional expense necessarily incurred by Mr. Jenkins, have voted to his salary an addition of one hundred dollars per annum until the next meeting of the Society ; and now recommend, that this sum and an addition of fifty dollars more, be made to his salary.

Mr. Roger Maddock has been employed as Schoolmaster, and Catechist, at Oneida, in place of Mr. Andrew Vandenberg, who has resigned. The Directors have given Mr. Maddock a salary of two hundred and fifty dollars per annum. It appears that although he has executed the duties assigned him with fidelity, and his moral and religious character are unexceptionable, yet the school at Oneida does not flourish. The decay of that school the directors extremely regret, and foresee its dissolution unless some method can be speedily adopted to prevent it.

They also report that the Missionary house and barn are in a ruinous condition for want of repairs, and that Mr. Jenkins, wishing to remove into one part of the Missionary house requests the Society to make the necessary repairs at their own expense, before the approaching winter ; which request is in our view reasonable and should be granted. Anthony Adgequid, the young Indian formerly mentioned, remained in the family of the Rev. James Mairs, until the month of March last. He returned to Oneida at the solicitations of his mother. The whole of his conduct while in the family of Mr. Mairs, was good, and he had made considerable proficiency in reading and writing.

The lands appropriated to the Rev. Samuel Kirkland, during life, and now granted by the Legislature to this Society, have been made productive, and the occupants have given notes for the back rents, and a lease will be executed when a survey thereof is made.

The Board would further beg leave to recommend that Abram, the Indian, if his usefulness seems to continue, receive such a donation from the Society as would en-

courage him and make his circumstances as comfortable as their funds will admit.

The Board lament that the intrigues and open hostility of many of the white inhabitants to the success of the gospel among the Indians, oppose to the labors of your Missionaries serious obstacles; and that notwithstanding the repeated earnest solicitation of the Indians, and the representations made to the legitimate authority of the State, the Tavern, formerly mentioned, still continues on the lands of the Indians.

On the whole, the Board see and lament the difficulties to be surmounted in propagating the gospel among the Indians. But by no difficulties that have yet arisen are we to be discouraged from prosecuting vigorously this noble object. From the promises of Christ, and the facts that are occurring before us, we are led to anticipate the blessed effects about to result from the Mission this Society have established at Oneida and Squasselow.

JAMES MAIRS,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
C. MILLER,		
ALEXANDER MONTIETH.		

Extracts from the Reports of Departments.

No. 1 made no report.

No. 2 reported that since the last annual meeting of the Society, they have transmitted to the Treasurer the sum of \$68 62, and that their whole number consists of 26 Members.

No. 3 reported that they have transmitted to the Treasurer \$62 1, and that their whole number consists of 34 Members.

No. 4 reported that they have transmitted to the Treasurer, the sum of \$286 88 1-2, and that their whole number consists of 54 Members.

No. 5 made no report.

No. 6 reported that they have transmitted to the Treasurer the sum of \$74 67, and that their whole number consists of 50 Members.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Northern Missionary Society in acct. with Elbert Willett, Treasurer.

1810.		DR.	D.	C.	M.
Sept. 4th,	To cash for clothes for a young Indian at Mr. Mairs',		20		
28th,	To do. paid committee for going to Oneida, - - - -		96	30	
Oct. 17th,	To do. paid Rev. Mr. Jenkins, as Missionary, - - -		200		
22d,	To do. to Christian Miller, for sundries, - - - -		23		
23d,	To do. to Andrew Vandenberg, as Schoolmaster, -		37	50	
Nov. 27th,	To do. for printing Report, &c. - - - - -		30		
Dcc. 18th,	To do. to Roger Maddock, - - - - -		60		
1811.					
March 2d,	To do. to Rev. Mr. Jenkins, - - - - -		100		
April 15th,	To do. to Roger Maddock, - - - - -		65		
June 4th,	To do. to Rev. Mr. Jenkins, - - - - -		50		
July 9th,	To do. to Roger Maddock, - - - - -		62	50	
Sept. 3d,	To do. remaining on hand, - - - - -		289	98	
		Dollars,	1034	28	

1810.		CR.	D.	C.	M.
Sept. 4th,	By cash on hand, - - - - -		197	82	
	By do. from No. 4, - - - - -		40		
5th,	By collection in Church at Schenectady, - - - -		31	14	
24th,	By cash from A. Hunt, on loan, - - - - -		59		
do.	By do. from John Cuyler, on loan, - - - - -		105	25	
1811.					
April 8th,	By do. from Department No. 5, - - - - -		35	64	5
May 25th,	By donation from Christian Union Society, - - -		6		
June 23d,	By dividend from the Farmers' Bank, - - - - -		13	60	
July 2d,	By cash from Department No. 6, - - - - -		24	67	
8th,	By do. from Department No. 5, - - - - -		94	52	
11th,	By do. for interest on R. Tracy's note, - - - - -		7		
Aug. 24th,	By do. for Dr. Blatchford's Address, - - - - -		2	12	
28th,	By do. from Department No. 4, - - - - -		286	88	5
Sept. 3d,	By do. from Department No. 3, - - - - -		62	1	
do.	By do. from Department No. 2, - - - - -		68	62	
		Dollars,	1034	28	

FUNDS OF THE SOCIETY.

100 acres of land from Mr. Dunlap, valued at	-	-	-	200		M.
Due on 100 acres sold to John Currie,	-	-	-	937	50	
6 years interest on ditto,	-	-	-	393	75	
Due on 100 acres sold to Michael Morrow,	-	-	-	600		
3 years interest on ditto,	-	-	-	126		
Due on 100 acres sold to David Wood,	-	-	-	675		
3 years interest on ditto,	-	-	-	141	75	
Due on 100 acres sold to David Cowden,	-	-	-	700		
2 1-4 years interest on ditto	-	-	-	110	25	
4 shares in Farmers' Bank,	-	-	-	160		
Money loaned to sundries,	-	-	-	787		
interest due on ditto,	-	-	-	56	96	
		Dollars	4888	21		

The Purchasers of Land at Oneida have all forfeited their contracts.

INCOME OF THE SOCIETY.

Interest for money due on land, - - - - -	203	87
Do. for money on loan, - - - - -	55	9
Do. for four shares in Farmer's Bank, - - - - -	14	40
Annual subscriptions, uncertain, say - - - - -	250	

Dollars. 336 52

We the Subscribers, appointed a Committee to audit the Treasurer's account, have done so, and found it right and accurately stated, leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of Two Hundred and Eighty-nine Dollars and Ninety-eight Cents, and that a statement of the Revenue of this Society is subjoined to the within Report.

ABRAHAM EIGHTS, } *Committee,*
J. H. WENDELL, }

Albany, 3d September, 1811.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

Doct. Samuel Blatchford, *President,*
Rev. James Mairs, *Vice-President,*
Rev. William Niell, *Secretary,*
Rev. Jonas Coe, *Clerk,*
Mr. Elbert Willett, *Treasurer.*

DIRECTORS.

Doct. Eliphalet Nott,	Mr. Abraham Oothout,
Doct. Samuel Blatchford,	Mr. John H. Wendell,
Rev. Jonas Coe,	Mr. Elbert Willett,
Rev. James Mairs,	Mr. Abraham Eights.
Rev. Cornelius Bogardus,	Mr. Christian Miller,
Rev. Jesse Fonda,	Mr. Isaac Truax,
Rev. John Dunlap,	Mr. Joseph Newlands,
Rev. John M. Bradford,	Mr. Alexander Kelly,
Rev. John M'Jimsey,	Mr. John Boardman,
Rev. William Niell,	Mr. J. Van Schoonhoven,
Rev. Robert Forrest.	Mr. James Boyd,
Rev. Alexander Montieth,	Mr. Chester Bulkley.

Extracts from the Minutes of the Society.

Resolved, That John Woodworth, Elbert Willett and Christian Miller, be a Committee to superintend the lands at Oneida and Westmoreland, belonging to this So-

ciety, and collect the monies due on said lands ; and they are hereby authorized to use all legal measures to secure the collection of them as early as possible, and report their success at the next meeting of the Society.

Resolved, That Mr. Jenkins' salary as Missionary of this Society, for the future, be four hundred dollars annually.

Resolved, That the next Annual Meeting of the Society be held in Troy, on the 1st Wednesday in September next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon ; and that the Rev'd Alexander Montieth preach the Sermon.

Extracts from the Journal of the Rev. Wm. Jenkins, the Missionary among the Oneida Indians.

Sabbath, Nov. 18th—The Church met in Old Scandos, to commemorate our Lord's death—In an introductory discourse I mentioned several things that had happened among us since last communion—There were many tears shed among us at mentioning the sins of the Oneida nation—I had much freedom in speaking to them, and our souls seemed to be refreshed and comforted by the Lord's presence with us at his table—Some expressed similar language to that of the Apostles—" Lord it is good for us to be here"—How pleasing a sight to see poor Indians full of love to the Lord, and indicating plainly that their language comes far short of, and is but a faint index to their feelings. I think to have seen us then the atheist must have been confounded ; the deist convinced, and any reasonable man persuaded that there is at least some unaccountable reality in religion ; something that hath the power of assimilating a number of minds into a glow of mutual affections that are lovely, and supernaturally pleasing---pleasing in a degree that no natural causes can any way account for.

Saturday, Jan. 26th—I am succeeding tolerably well with my school.---We have read the three first books of the New Testament.

Saturday, Feb. 9th (Attended a justice's court about some Indian affairs) Have kept school steady—About 20 Indian children attend each day this week—Have read

through the spelling book in a class about 12 in number—
We have got to Romans in the Testament.

Sabbath, Feb. 10th—Met at Oneida—My Interpreter did not attend, I was therefore, unprepared as I was for it, obliged to speak myself in their language, from Psalms 102d and 16th, “When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.” It was with much diffidence I began to speak, and in discoursing found considerable difficulty in expressing myself; but the Lord assisted me—I succeeded much better than I expected. What an important duty, and how often is it a profitable one, to cast our burdens on the Lord—He only can, and often doth, wonderfully sustain.

At Squasselow they understand considerable English—I discoursed in both languages in a mixed way, making the one assist the other—After discoursing I enquired particularly how they understood me, and was happy to hear that they were extremely pleased, and had understood me well, and desired me to speak always in that manner to them.

17th—At Squasselow discoursed on the nature and duty of Prayer—This I did as last Sabbath, partly in the Indian and partly in English. I have often begun to speak to these poor people with fear and trembling, but when over have had abundant reason for saying, “hitherto the Lord hath helped.”—This gives me reason to think that my labor has not been altogether in vain, but that he hath some objects of his mercy among them.

Monday, March 8th—Attended the funeral of an old Indian woman, aged about seventy, who was a member of our church—I visited her shortly before her death—she had bore with much patience a long and severe sickness, and now appeared willing to leave the world, and was seemingly in full confidence of an interest in the Lord Jesus Christ.—The tears and wailings of her friends that this day came to see her corpse, would have pierced the hardest heart—I could not help shedding tears along with them. A large number collected to the funeral.

I discoursed from Rev. 14th, 13th, “And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, write, blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, from henceforth, yea saith the

spirit, they shall rest from their labors and their works do follow them."...Concluded with an advice to prepare for death by repentance and believing in Christ, and living to him. Great and seemingly very serious attention was paid by all present. The house being too small we discoursed out doors. The corpse was brought out in a very elegant coffin---The face uncovered---it was elegantly dressed in her best wearing clothes.

Sabbath, March 3d---At Oneida, spoke from Mark 1st and 3d, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord."---Spoke chiefly in Indian---I began with much diffidence and fear, not being fully master of the language---The Lord assisted me---I did exceedingly better than I expected to have done---I spoke sometimes with fervency and ease, as if I had been speaking in my mother tongue.

16th, Saturday---Met with the members of the church in the house of the principal chief, Scanodo. Discoursed about that solemn duty we had in view---Was much delighted with the pleasant conversation of several members---They spoke much about their dependence on Christ, and that their souls loved him as their chiefest good---That nothing was like him.

17th, Sabbath---After sermon, the members of the church went to Scanodo's house as usual, to engage in the solemn duty of remembering and shewing forth the death of our Lord---The spirits of some of the members seemed much burdened with grief---they sighed much, and shed many tears---This was sometime before distribution of the elements---By the time we distributed them, they seemed to be in a much more comfortable frame---I believe some of us could say, we sat under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet unto our taste.

Sabbath, May 26th---After meeting was over an Indian woman who had been about two years at Grand River, with an heart full of joy, shook hands with me, telling me that while she had been at Grand River she had often thought of the words she had formerly heard me speak---That her soul was glad because God had preserved her and me to see each other, and that she had heard such good words again as she had heard this day---

She said her soul gave great thanks to God for these things; And to express this, she, with some others, sung a hymn in Indian, that speaks of God's care of his children---The pathos with which they sung it I cannot describe---it seemed their souls like their voices were in unison.

Sabbath, June 2d---This evening had some pleasing conversation with an Indian member of our church, who is very pious, and hath been often called on by the sick and dying Indians to pray with them---This Indian told me the dying words of some pious Indians, and those of an old woman who lately departed this life---It seems they were truly affecting and displayed an unshaken confidence and a glorious hope of eternal life through the death of Christ---Also her earnest desires about the salvation of her children and grand children---She entreated them earnestly to walk wisely, to love and serve Christ, or they would be ruined for ever---Told them she had wept much for their sins; had spoke much to them to persuade them to choose the good way---that now her mouth was to be closed, would speak no more, and the last word she had to say for them was, that they should live near God, and obey him.

28th---This day was sent to preach at the funeral of a young Indian who had died suddenly---Between two and three hundred Indians attended, and a few white people---Spoke from these words, "This mortal shall put on immortality"---I had to speak out doors, which was disagreeable, as it rained most part of the time---But was pleased to see attention paid, and that but very few left us during the discourse.

I have now been about four years among indians; during that time I must be allowed to have acquired some knowledge respecting them---and I am fully convinced, that to a man well acquainted with the natural operations of the human intellect, nothing among Indians would appear extraordinary to him---that he would find them exactly what their long continued habits and state of deplorable ignorance was most likely to make them.

White people being unacquainted with Indians, are apt to form very false opinions respecting them---They

They are ready to think all things as different and strange as their language and dress ; and that every thing about them is inferior, and that they are a much worse people than they really are, in every respect---But when acquainted with them, we soon discover the same faculties, and the same propensities we have ourselves ; and in short, all the faculties of their minds operating in the same way as our own, though not in the same degree ---yet many of them exercised far more conformable to the light of nature and the propriety of things than our own, and with a quickness and ease that cannot but astonish us.---They have for four years past made wonderful improvements in agriculture---they certainly raise this year fifty or perhaps a hundred times as much grain as they did four years ago---They have ploughed up much of their open ground, and likewise cut down and cleared off the timber from considerable large tracts of land, which they have fenced and planted---Several of them have wrought with as much steadiness and diligence as almost any white man could do, and I firmly believe, were the fruits of their industry but secured to them, they would in a few years have large quantities of grain for sale, besides what might be necessary for themselves.

August 3d.—A young Indian, who hath been a very wicked person till lately, hath apparently become seriously alarmed for his salvation, and hath lately called on me several times—He again called this evening, and we discoursed, partly Indian, partly English, about an hour together.—I mentioned his former conduct, drinking, breaking the Sabbath, and he seemed much affected, and professed much sorrow for his past conduct—I asked what he had thought when doing what he knew God forbids to be done—He said he was sometimes afraid that God would immediately destroy him in his sins—Spoke of God's justice—That he had seen the evil of sin—That his wife and he both trusted alone in Christ—had given themselves to him, and were determined to live to him.

Monday 5th.—I lately visited old Scanodo, who hath been for some time past very poorly—After mentioning his faith in Christ, his hopes of happiness through him, and his willingness to die and be with Christ, and some

other pious Indians who died several years ago, who he says believed in Christ, and he thinks are now in heaven, he told me the following dream which seemed to have considerably revived his spirits. My eyes are dark,* but lately when asleep, the eyes of my soul were opened, and I saw—Looking around me to some distance on each side, I beheld and there was a piece of very beautiful land—Jesus had made his sun to shine upon it—there was no storm---no wind---no rain. It was a good place---In this place I saw the friends of Jesus---(Here he mentioned several whom he knew, some were dead, others still living)---They were all good men, not one bad among them---Their countenances were beautiful---their clothing was finer than any cloth, and their ornaments shone brighter than Indian broaches or their finest plates---They were all joy, and their hearts were glad with love---My heart was full of gladness. I stretched my eye to the further side of this good place, and looking, I saw all was a terrible storm—no storm where good men were, but all on the outside of their land was a great storm; and there were all the wicked men—They were in very bad cloathes—Their faces frightful—they cried---they wished to get among us from the terrible storm, but Jesus drove them away when they offered to come in---I saw wicked Indians and wicked whites in the storm, and loud roared the storm among the trees of the wood, and among the wicked men, but among the good men, peace---no storm.

6th---This day another young Indian called on me and requested me to retire with him by ourselves---we did so, and I observed that he was much confused and seemed anxious to tell me something, but was afraid to do it; but in a little while recovering himself he told me he had been one of the greatest of sinners against God---been blind---saw nothing, &c. that now his mind was altered---that he was now to serve God; to do good; to attend church, and keep God's holy day---Said he saw this to be his duty, &c. I discoursed with him some time, I think profitably.

* Alluding to his want of sight—This aged chief has been blind many years—He is upwards of an hundred years old; and has long sustained the character of an exemplary christian among the Oneidas.