

1855

A Letter from Rev Goodnough
about his arrival at Oneida
on Oct 1, 1853 - how the
Oneidas Received him -
He Tells of Two Oneidas fight
over whiskey and one kills
the other.

THE
SPIRIT OF MISSIONS;

EDITED FOR

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS

OF

The Protestant Episcopal Church

IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

By the Secretaries and General Agents of the two Committees.

To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places, might be known
by the Church the manifold wisdom of God.—ST. PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS.

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1855.

have been ordained to the ministry; and two of our pupils, I trust, have determined to study for the sacred ministry.

"This is doing something towards supplying our lack of laborers; but, alas, how little compared with our wants! The field is more than white for the harvest; but where are those who are to thrust in the sickle and garner the precious grain?"

"The Trustees of St. Paul's College have requested me to act as General Agent for the Institution for a season. I must, therefore, resign my missionary assistance, to take effect October 1st, 1854."

Wisconsin.

Waukesha—Rev. Charles B. Stout

"SINCE my report in April I have been absent in the East, collecting for the completion of the Church, by request of the Bishop and permission of the Committee. Funds to the amount of about \$1,500 were obtained; and if the pledges made are all paid, the work will be finished by 1st January next. We hope there will be no failure, as, so many clouds have hung over this Parish, it is all-important that the work be speedily completed. We are really doing very well here now, and when the church is finished in a plain but substantial way, we may well calculate on an increase of prosperity.

"There is increasing spiritual interest in the Parish and among the people; and I may say truly that there never has been a time when the effort to render the establishment of our Church permanent was regarded with more favor by the community than at present. Your Missionary, while there are many things to regret, cannot but rejoice that so many give attention to the preached Word, and appear to take a deep interest in the prosperity of the Church. In God's own time we hope for a harvest of souls. In the meanwhile, it is ours to labor, and pray, and wait. The natural soil of Wisconsin is vastly productive; and the present year has been marked by a bountiful return from the labors of the husbandman. May we not look for a like return from the cultivation of the spiritual soil?"

Oneida Indian Station, Duck Creek, near Green Bay—Rev. E. A. Goodnough.

"On my arrival at this Station, 1st October, 1853, I found the people of the Mission in a deplorable spiritual and temporal condition, on account of ministerial destitution. One Indian said to me, 'Since we have been without a Missionary, we have become almost wild again.' Yet I was welcomed with gladness by all; and, contrasting the present time with a year ago, I have abundant cause to thank God and take courage. There is now not half the drunkenness and general disregard of that which is good. The prospects of the Mission are in the highest degree encouraging; and I feel that labor and money are not expended 'in vain in the Lord.' The Indian is teachable, but exceedingly unstable. The temptations to which he is exposed are many and powerful, and he has not strength enough, unaided, to resist them. Still, by faithful and continual teaching and warning, he can be kept in the path of Christian duty.

"This tribe is in a transition state, so to speak. It is neither civilized nor barbarous; and, as a people, they hardly know whether to advance or go back to their ancient habits. This being so, I feel, as a Missionary of the Church of Christ, I have a most responsible office and work among this people.

"The Church building is not yet repaired. We ought to expend a thousand dollars upon it at once. We would do it ourselves, if we could; but feel obliged to call upon those who are able for help. The cholera has visited us this season somewhat severely, and left some widows and orphans requiring the sympathy of the benevolent. If a chest of medicine, also, could be sent to me, for gratuitous distribution, much sickness and suffering might be prevented.

"I wish to acknowledge, with many thanks to the givers and gratitude to the Disposer of hearts, the receipt of forty-six dollars for the repairs of the church building. Thirty was given by 'J.,' a daughter of the Church in Philadelphia; ten was given by 'Y.,' of Lancaster, Pa.; and six by Rev. George P. Schetky, Louisville, Ky."

taking into account the Norwegians, there are upwards of twenty-six families regularly attending our worship. Their children are brought to baptism, and, under the direction of Mr. Kemper, a class is now preparing for confirmation; to which holy rite, I hope before long to present also a few of our Norwegian fold. The little number of twenty-six families, which now constitute the Norwegian Parish, and all of which I now look upon as faithful members of the Church, would, united with the other part of our congregation, make an interesting parish, could only a clergyman be found who, possessing knowledge of both the different languages, would be willing to take charge of the same and settle among them. The little prospect there is of ever attaining this object is the only difficulty which now presents itself to me as a discouragement in our present work at this station. The long journey I have to make, in order to fulfill my monthly engagements at St. Oloff's, is connected with an expense which would be more profitably laid out, could it be given to a missionary settled on the spot; and the claim which the Mission in Chicago has upon my time will naturally render my visits to St. Oloff's very short; and I see with sorrow that my duties at this station can be but very imperfectly performed. Still, we are now making all the efforts within our power to supply both the stations; and, thankful to God who, so far, has graciously enabled us to do it, there remains to us nothing but in faith to continue our work, and trust in Him for the future."

Wisconsin.

Duck Creek—Rev. E. A. Goodnough.

"In October last, I visited Waupaca, a small village 75 miles west of this place, and held service there, administering the Holy Communion, baptizing three children, and preaching to a large congregation. Many of them were favorable to the Church, and a few of them faithful and devout communicants; but they are deprived of the ministrations of the Word altogether, except only once or twice a year, when that true missionary, Bishop Kemper, visits them, as he does every waste place

in his extensive Diocese. I was absent one Sunday at that time. Since then, I have been here every Sunday, and have performed the regular services each Lord's-day in the Mission Church. I have visited numerous sick members of the Church; and have administered the Holy Communion to all who were worthy. The congregation is large, and quite attentive to the services. About sixty partake of the Sacrament once a month. Fifteen young persons were confirmed at the Bishop's visitation in the winter, three of whom had been Methodists.

"Of late, quite a gloom has pervaded our whole neighbourhood, occasioned by the murder of one of our people. Whisky was the cause of the crime. Two Indians strove together for possession of a gallon of it, and one killed the other. The low class of white people sell whisky to the Indians; thus overthrowing one-half of all I do. The laws are well enough, but officers will not execute them."

Whitewater—Rev. L. H. Humphrey.

"By the continued blessing of the Great Head of the Church, I have been enabled to officiate in this parish regularly every Sunday, except one, since my last report, and upon that one elsewhere.

"I have nothing very special to communicate; but the general prosperity of the parish, by the Divine blessing, seems to be still onward. I have a small class for confirmation, awaiting the visitation of our well-beloved Bishop.

"We have made arrangements to fence the church lot, containing a trifle over a half acre, and to build thereon a small but neat and sufficiently commodious parsonage, with necessary out-buildings; the whole to be completed by the 15th day of June next.

"The people of this parish are few in number, and none of them rich. But they have most liberal hearts. They love the Church, and seem ever to consider it not only a duty, but a great pleasure, to do everything in their power to advance its interests."