

highly respectable individual formerly of Holland, Erie Co., but for some eighteen years a resident of Illinois. After an absence of about fifteen years, he returned two or three years ago, and spent the summer in this region, and several days of the time on the Reservation. He frequently remarked that the Indians during his absence, had improved far more rapidly than their neighbours in the country around them.

In business there is much greater diligence and industry ; their teams in respect to oxen, horses, wagons, sleighs, &c. are greater in number and better in quality, than formerly, and in these respects there is a constant improvement. The men labor more, comparatively, and the women less, except in their appropriate sphere, than formerly.

With regard to buildings, they are much more conveniently planned, and of the best materials, both dwelling houses and barns, and new ones constantly going up. Those who have not lands of their own under cultivation, are much more willing to hire out their services to others, either by the year or by shares ; this shows that the idea, "to work is thought to be dishonorable" has been done away. There are amongst us, good mowers, and cradlers, and reapers. Blacksmiths, carpenters, shoe-makers and other mechanics, find work enough for their own brethren. There are several wagons in the nation, which are worth more than one hundred dollars in cash ; tools of the best quality and of various kinds ; manure and other things are sometimes applied, but five years ago, almost or quite universally wasted.

With regard to mode of living, tables, chairs, and bedsteads and cooking apparatus, have generally been purchased of the whites or manufactured in imitation of them, and they are used to a greater or less extent in almost every family. The habit of taking regular meals is gaining ground, and the provision luxurious. The care of the sick ; they are more attentive and judicious, and rely less on notions and quackery ; they employ skilful physicians, and use the medicine with less prejudice, and a great deal more confidence.

Other evidences of improvement we have in the increase of industry, and a consequent advance in dress, furniture and all the comforts and conveniences of civilized life. The fields of the Indians have never been kept in so good order, and managed with so much industry, as for the few years past ; at public meetings and other large assemblies, the Indians appear comfortably and decently and some of them richly clad. The population is increasing gradually, except