

ring that he is ashamed to drink in the Mission; and has no person to join with him. Such has been the influence of the Mission on his mind, and on the mind of one of his brothers, that, in spite of their obstinacy in refusing to become Christians themselves, they came forward at our last Quarter-Day and presented each a fine boy for Christian baptism, who, if we may judge from their application and improvement in the School, promise future usefulness.

The Mission-School has, under the care of Mr. Price, been in as efficient operation as circumstances would allow. The children have made improvement, perhaps, inferior to no School in our Mission-work; and a more general thirst for knowledge among the youth, and anxiety among the parents for the improvement of their children, I have never seen;—and, in many instances, great sacrifice of feeling has been made during the year, by both parents and children, in order to enjoy the benefit of the School. In many instances the Indians, who have been obliged, by the scarcity of provision during the past year, to leave the Station on hunting excursions, have expressed the greatest anxiety and made repeated applications to have their children taken under the care of the Missionary, in order that they might not be absent from the School. In some instances several have been taken into the family; and the improvement they have made will, we hope, fully justify this step. Could some plan be devised, by which the children could be provided for during the absence of their friends, or taken under the care of the Society, great good would doubtless result to the Schools, and a more powerful influence be exerted among the surrounding Pagans.

During the year the Missionary and Interpreter have been engaged in preparing a Translation of the Wesleyan Methodist Hymns, in which work we have found, as in all such labours, many, at first sight, insurmountable obstacles, such as cannot be met with in the ordinary labours of a Mission. Nor are all attempts to translate the English into foreign languages attended with the same difficulties which present themselves in rendering our language into the Chippewa, and especially when the latitude which a translation in prose would allow is materially circumscribed by having to select such modes of expression and such particular words as can be embraced in the poetic line in which the sentiment must be communicated.

Another peculiar difficulty was the want of an efficient orthography to represent the sounds of the language, it having never been reduced to any regular system, but each individual left to his caprice in selecting from the English alphabet such characters as he might choose, to represent the Chippewa sounds, not a few of which are perfectly foreign to anything found in the English, and few fully corresponding with our alphabetic sounds.

After repeated revisions, and perhaps not less than seven manuscript editions, the Hymns have been presented for publication; and, after undergoing the inspection of such persons as the Missionary Society