

tlement generally, and attends to the various duties of his station with praiseworthy assiduity. The leaders and exhorters are upright men, and lovers of Wesleyan Methodism. Our numbers, as you will perceive, are increased, which is attributable to the return of several backsliders, and the addition of some who never met in class. In this we have cause for thankfulness. Our meetings likewise are on the increase, and are as well attended as during the preceding year. Sometimes there is considerable excitement in our meetings, but I am able to testify that this is not what some would call enthusiasm, for the persons who are under the greatest emotions are amongst the most pious and consistent of our people. Enviably indeed is that state of joyous spiritual overflowing which they frequently manifest when unitedly engaged in their public devotions; and you will not wonder, when I tell you, that the following verse is frequently sung by them with a fervency and delight which is almost overwhelming:

‘Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed his precious blood.’

The change which the Gospel has produced in these Indians is most decided and striking, and perhaps in nothing more than in their sobriety. Their former intemperance was notorious, and the debts they contracted for whiskey most heavy and embarrassing; but since their conversion, they have not only avoided spirits of every kind, but even cider. Their temperance is total abstinence. I hear some of the white people in the neighbourhood occasionally speak of them; ‘they used,’ say they, ‘to be too filthy to come near—they beat their wives—they lay about our streets and our doors drunk with whiskey, and filthy as our hogs. But since they embraced religion at Grape Island, we hear them in our woods singing their hymns and praying to God; they are like pious white people now.’ So it is; they are clean, sober, kind, industrious, pious and happy. Much has been spent on this contracted island; but the many spiritual and civil benefits that result to the people themselves, and to others, more than repay all that has been expended: not in kind it is true, but in something more precious than gold—the conversion and salvation of immortal souls. Who can tell the good done by our schools? Many are the efficient exhorters and interpreters

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