

Correspondence.

FROM THE RESERVES.

GEORGINA ISLAND RESERVE.

The Georgina Island Auxillary of Indian women report a growing interest in their society. These women had no money to give, but at each meeting every member brings a basket of her make; these baskets in two consignments, have been sent to the Corresponding Secretary of the Toronto Branch, who has been able to sell them more readily than the makers could. Several children, by sending in baskets, have enrolled themselves as members. The sum of \$14.65 has already been realized by the sale of these baskets, which, with \$4 in cash sent from this auxillary, makes \$18.65, which has been handed into the branch treasurer.

The tea party advertised to be held on March 3d, was a great success. White people from Sutton and surrounding neighborhood came in large numbers, as Indians from Rama, Skogog, and Mud Lake. A little after 12 o'clock a combined attack by whites, half-breeds and Indians was made upon the school house, in which was stowed sandwiches, pies, cakes, &c., as well as the cup which cheers but not inebriates. These were soon demolished and complete victory obtained. About half-past two o'clock a public meeting was held in the church, which was addressed by the following speakers: Revs. Madden and Jamieson. Mr. Mayes, the teacher, and Messrs. Cane, Beatty and Ashquabe. The Indians were proud to have Mr. Cane, of Toronto, son of the Mayor of Newmarket, with them, who, in a neat and appropriate speech, brought down the house. The afternoon meeting concluded about six o'clock. The chair was occupied by Chief Big Canoe, with his usual ability and humor. The presence of so large a number of white people shows that the Indians are rising in the estimation and respect of the white population. After again refreshing the inner man, the Indians held an evening meeting Noah Snake being called to the chair. Speeches were given by Chief Johnson, of Skogog, J. Keenine, G. Williams, Jas. Ashquabe, Chief Big Canoe. The Indian choir gave choice music at both meetings. The proceeds amounted to about \$37.

KECHECHEMON.

A Newmarket Reformer reporter thus describes his visit to the reserve:—While on a visit to the enterprising village of Sutton last week, our reporter was pleased to receive an invitation from one of the red men of the north to attend a tea party at Georgina Island under the auspices of the Methodist Mission. After a lovely six miles drive across the ice of Lake Simcoe we arrived at the Church, which is a commodious building, situated in a cleared portion of the island, convenient to all the inhabitants. We were met by Chief Kechechemere, "Big Canoe," who ordered our horse to be taken care of and conducted us to the spacious building to the right—the school house. Here, after partaking of a sumptuous repast, we were introduced to the Rev. Messrs. Madden and Jamieson, minister of the Methodist Church, who officiate at the service on the island every

Sunday during the year, and also to Mr. Mayes the genial and efficient teacher of the school. We were then conducted to the Church, where addresses were delivered. Chief Big Canoe, chairman of the meeting, after a few introductory remarks (in English), thanked those present for the interest they manifested in the success of the Church and the spread of Christianity among the people of the back woods, called upon Dr. Beatty, of the Rama Reserve, who dealt with the Indian question in relation to the Government and showed the white people present that the Indians were not by any means the uncultured and uninformed class they had been pictured, but were quite able to grasp and deal with the many questions affecting their interests at the present day. Mr. G. F. Cane, of Newmarket, congratulated the people of Georgina Island upon their advance in agricultural pursuits and education, which was marked by the highly cultivated farms, the spacious barns, and the numerous herds of stock which are found scattered over the reserve, by the spread of the English tongue, and by the competitive examinations passed by every candidate from the school who presented himself for examination. Revs. Messrs. Madden and Jamieson addressed the meeting. To these gentlemen much of the progress above-mentioned is due. Their general bearing, able instruction, and energetic efforts, are strongly marked in the large number who flock to hear their discourse upon the scriptures and the number who have already professed the Christian faith. A very handsome cake was put up as a prize to the young lady who received the larger number of votes, and Miss Big Canoe, daughter of the Chief, was the successful candidate. After partaking of a very welcome tea, we bade good-bye to the good people of the island, much pleased with our visit to the red men.—*Orillia Packet*.

RAMA.

Twenty-seven Indians on this reserve and thirty-four on Georgina Island, have their names on the Voters' List.

One of the most regular readers of the INDIAN on the reserve tells us that the Rev. S. Downs is very popular, in consequence of his faithful ministrations, particularly to any who are sick or in trouble.

Indian Agent McPhee has sent a case of samples of Indian fancy work, to the Indian and Colonial Exhibition. It was much admired by all who saw it before shipment and does credit to the taste and skill of the dusky lads and lassies of this reserve.

A tea-meeting was held here on the 11th. There was a good attendance, and as is usual in all such affairs on this reserve, it was most enjoyable. Speeches were given by Indian Agent McPhee, Chief Bigcanoe, Chief Benson, Chief Chauncey Johnson, Councillors McHugh and Esquab. The order was remarkably good. The proceeds were for seating Benson Hall.

Agent McPhee is very popular with the Indians.

There were not less than two hundred Indians from other reserves at the tea-meeting here on the 11th inst. The proceeds amounted to \$56.46. Chief Benson occupied the chair.—*Orillia Packet*.

ONEIDA.—MIDDLESEX DEANERY.

If the Indians are not yet as far advanced in industrial arts as their white neighbors, they are determined at least, to compete with them in the great city. The Oneidas have been collecting relics and making ready several articles to send to the coming Indian and Colonial Exhibition in London, England. Among the articles to be sent is a self-acting railroad switch, and a perpetual motion machine, invented by William Doxtator, also fruit, vegetables, and grain, and several carved walking canes, made by Elijah and John Sickle. This William Doxtator is the son to the former interpreter of the Church missions to the Indians.—*Dominion Churchman*.

ONEIDA RESERVATION—(RIVER THAMES.)

At the last meeting of the Oneida Chiefs March 12th, a resolution was passed to notify Mr. Thos. Gordon, Indian Agent, to summon Stephen Wells, John Johnson, and Aaron Thom as for trespassing. They actually went to work to draw gravel out of the Indian Reservation without permission. These parties will appear before the Indian Agent on March 17th.

The appointments made by the Chiefs lately are: Speaker, Washington Doxtator; Treasurer, Chief John Ninham; Secretary, John Suckles; New Chiefs appointed, Adam Sickles, Louis Scannodo.

A presentation to the Oneida Sunday School was made by Dr. Even, of London.

A great Indian Root Medicine Company was formed at Oneida, to treat all kinds of diseases. Address Oneida Medicine Co., Muncey Post Office.

G. W. Harkins, of the Chickasaws said, "It is one hundred years since the Choctaws and Chickasaws, whom I represent, set up their government. We live under a constitution and laws enacted by a legislative body patterned after your own Congress. We have our courts churches and schools where we educate our boys and girls without it costing you one cent. The missionaries have helped build us up to what we are, and we will go on working our own salvation, if you will but give us the chance. We do not ask your sympathy, we simply demand justice. We are here to protect our homes, and to oppose all bills that have for their object the opening up of our country. We would contend for our tribal relations the holding of lands in common, and the stability of our titles to our homes." A. S.

DR. ONONTIYOH.

An American exchange says: Onontiyoh, a full-blooded Indian, graduated recently in a class of 46 at the Buffalo Medical College. He is the first of his race to take honors in a course of medicine in this country. His uncle, Oronhyatekha (Burning Sky), was graduated at Oxford, England, and is now a successful practitioner at London, Ont. Onontiyoh is of pure Mohawk blood and his name signifies "Beautiful Mountain."