

MUNSEE INDIAN MISSION.

To the Editor of the Colonist.

12TH JUNE, 1857.

Sir,— I hope that the following statement may prove interesting to yourself and some of your numerous readers; and respectfully request that you will give it a place in your columns of the Colonist, as early as may be convenient.

It is now more than twenty years since the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ was first made known to us by our esteemed missionary. We were then told that, as common children of a guilty and fallen parent, we and all mankind are conceived and born in sin, and subject to death temporal and eternal; that it pleased God, of his tender compassion for lost sinners, to "send his only begotten Son into the world, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life;" and that as the salvation of the soul of the poor Indian was as precious in the sight of our heavenly father, as that of every other child of Adam, it was therefore equally included in this gracious message. As soon as the good news of God's wonderful love reached us it made our hearts glad; the darkness of death, which hath so long obscured our path, was in a short time removed, by the bright beams of the "Lamp of Life;" all objects of Pagan idolatry were, as the Prophet emphatically expresses it, "cast to the moles and the bats;" even the little household idol which my dear mother had for many years cherished in her bosom as her fondest earthly treasure, was parted with to the missionary of Jesus as a thing utterly useless, and unworthy any longer a place in her affections; and I am thankful to say that, through the mercy of God, she still lives and continues a constant, and I sincerely believe, a worthy communicant in our beloved Church of the memorial of a Saviour's dying love, in the enjoyment of which, it is needless to say, she never indulges in vain regrets for the loss of the heathen relic. The long and rude building, also, which had been used by our fathers and brethren, for many years, as a temple devoted to the celebration of Pagan worship, and in which annual feasts for that purpose, frequently of ten or twelve days' duration, together with others of minor importance, were wont to be held, was quickly deserted at the joyful sound of the gospel of Christ; and the walls, which continued to stand a few years longer, and were occasionally pointed out to the casual visitor as the remains of what they had formerly enclosed, have long since been laid in ruins. In obedience to our blessed Lord's command to his Apostle Peter, "When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren," I soon afterwards proceeded on a visit to my brethren on Grand River, for the purpose of telling them what good things Jesus had done for my soul; that instead of being a lost and fallen creature, living under the just displeasure of a righteous God, I was brought nigh to him through the blood of his dear Son, and made his child by adoption and grace, "a member of Christ, a child of God, and inheritor of the kingdom of heaven;" and should most assuredly enjoy eternal happiness, if those great privileges were not forfeited by wilful disobedience. This language, as may be supposed, sounded strange in the ears of those to whom it was spoken. Sunk in the lowest depths of idolatry and superstition, it was not without considerable effort that they could be convinced how utterly powerless their graven images were to assist them in time of need. The Good Spirit at length was pleased to open their hearts to understand the gospel; the axe did its work on their heathen deities, and their temple was destroyed. An esteemed and lamented friend, George Anthony, who held the office of a chief, possessing con-

siderable influence among the people, and who was the most confirmed and inveterate Pagan in the settlement, was the first to embrace the gracious offer, and for many years afterwards acted as interpreter to the mission at Tuscarora, under the present amiable and zealous missionary. He is now gone to enjoy that rest which remains for the people of God.

Now I am happy to say he was not only blessed with an assurance of the Divine presence and favour, and perfectly resigned, but more than resigned: he was especially the latter triumphant and rejoicing. One of the last expressions of brother G. Anthony was, "I am not sorry the Lord is taking me away. I am ready; I am prepared to go. Only one thing makes me feel pain here," (laying his hand on his breast,) "makes me feel sorry in my heart. It is—I pity my poor brothers and sisters; no one will give them a good advice. I feel sorry also to think when I am gone there will be no one to take care of my poor wife, or get any thing for her." On being told he must give them up to the blessed Saviour, and leave them in his merciful hands; that he would care for them, and provide for his poor wife and brothers and sisters, as well and better than their dying brother could, he replied, with, smile of confidence and hope, "That is true; I know it."

And, Rev. Sir, I was very glad to receive letter from young man, name Moses Cornelius, at Grand River, last March, and that he wished me to go visit them to Grand River once more. I replied quickly that it was very good indeed, for that I had given myself as a sacrifice unto God, to do his will. On my arrival in Grand River place called Caledonia, on April, 11th last, I saw my Christian friends and relations. We are happy to see each one another. Waters came down from our eyes, for our hearts did burn with love to see each one another. Then I went home with them to their houses, about five miles from Caledonia. And next morning was Easter Sunday, and all the people come to the Church, and every one come to me and shake hands with me so glad to see me once more in this life. Then I read sermon for morning service from Luke xxiv. 24.—"The Lord is risen indeed." While I exhorting my Christian friends we feel in our hearts Jesus with us, because I see my brothers and sisters all feel happy in their hearts; and I hope that you will, with the blessing of God, endeavour to persevere in the good way that is pointed out to you in the gospel of his dear Son, who redeemed you with his precious blood; and to enable you all to do so you must constantly ask for His help in fervent prayer, sincerely believing that he will support you in every difficulty, as he has graciously promised to hear the prayers of his faithful children, and to grant their requests. I also hope, my dear Christian friends, that you all will remain faithful members of that branch of Christ's church in which you all were baptised, and to which you belong until the day of your death, carefully and prayerfully receiving the word of salvation from the lips of your lawfully appointed minister, who watches for your souls' health as one that feels most affectionately for your present and eternal happiness, as a member of his flock, to whom he will have to give an account to the Great Shepherd at the Day of Judgment; and that you will not, on any pretence whatever, stray from the fold of Christ, into which you have been gathered, for the purpose of feeding in pastures to which you do not belong. I hope God the Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost, be with you all.—Amen.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Your faithful friend,

JOHN WAMPUM,

Munsee Interpreter.

COLLECTIONS UP TO 14TH SEPTEMBER.

Collections appointed to be taken up in the several Churches, Chapels, and Missionary Stations in the Diocese, towards the augmentation of the Mission Fund of the Society, in the month of July, 1857:—

Previously announced.....	£172	9	2
Collingwood.....	£0	15	0
Creemore.....	0	7	6
Per Rev. J. Langtry.....	1	2	6
St. George's Church, Clarke, per Churchwarden.....	1	10	0
Goulbourne.....	0	8	6
Huntley.....	0	9	0
Per Rev. J. Goufrey.....	0	17	6
St. George's Church, Gratton.....	1	12	4
Trinity Church, Colborne... ..	0	17	8
Per Rev. J. Wilson.....	2	10	0
Yerk.....	0	18	6
Cayuga.....	1	1	6
Caledonia.....	1	5	0
Per Rev. B. C. Hill.....	3	5	0
Trinity Church, Moore.....	2	7	6
St. Mary's Church, do. ....	1	1	3
Butler's Station.....	0	10	9
Sarnia.....	4	5	0
Per Rev. J. G. Salter.....	8	4	6
Moulinette (additional), per Rev. H. Patton.....	0	5	0
Christ Church, Hillier.....	1	13	11
St. Andrew's Church, Wellington.....	0	7	11
Per Rev. C. Ruttan.....	2	1	10
St. Peter's Church, Cobourg 11	2	0	
Stiles' Schoolhouse.....	0	15	7
Per Ven. A. N. Bethune.....	11	17	7
St. Peter's Church, Tyrconnel, per Rev. Henry Holland.....	3	10	0
St. John's Church, Bowmanville, per Rev. Dr. MacNab.....	3	10	0
Rico Lake, per Rev. J. W. Beck.....	1	5	0
St. Mary Magdalene, Picton, per Churchwarden.....	3	0	3
St. George's Church, Drummondville.....	4	5	
St. John's Church, Stamford 1	5	10	
Per Rev. C. L. Ingles.....	5	10	3
St. Mary's Church, Manvers, per Churchwardens.....	0	15	0
St. Mark's Church, Barricfield.....	0	15	0
McLean's Schoolhouse.....	0	11	3
Per Rev. E. C. Bower.....	1	6	3
St. John's Church, Cavan... ..	1	16	9
St. Paul's Church, do. ....	1	13	3
Per Rev. J. W. Allen.....	3	10	0
St. James' Church, Penetanguisheny, per Churchwarden.....	1	0	0
105 Collections, amounting to...	£227	9	10

STUDENTS' FUND, XV. YEAR.

Previously announced.....	£208	4	11
Christ Church, West Gwillimbury.....	0	7	3