

THE YEARLY MEETING having in 1837 referred the circumstances of the Aborigines of the BRITISH COLONIAL POSSESSIONS and particularly of the Indians in Upper Canada, to the close attention of the MEETING FOR SUFFERINGS, a large Committee was forthwith appointed for the purpose, and the subject has from time to time obtained the consideration of that meeting.

The following is an extract from their report to the Yearly Meeting in 1838, chiefly relating to

THE CANADIAN INDIANS.

"WHILST we have to regret that so little has been done in proportion to the magnitude and importance of the concern, it seems proper to state *that little* for the information of the Society, in the hope that it may contribute to promote the interest and co-operation of Friends generally.

The Committee of the House of Commons having presented a Report on the general subject of the Aborigines in the British Colonies, a copious abstract of that Report, with some additional information and notes, was prepared by the Committee of this meeting and printed as a small pamphlet for general circulation throughout the Society.

The facts which are detailed in that Report, and fully substantiated by it, show the great importance of the subject, and the need of prompt and energetic measures being adopted if the Aborigines are to be preserved from utter annihilation.

With reference to the case of the North American Indians in particular, two members of this Meeting waited by appointment on Lord Glenelg, the Colonial Secretary. He received them very courteously, and entered at considerable length into the subject. A letter was also addressed, in the course of last year, by a member of this meeting to a Friend of New York Yearly Meeting, and the names of Friends in Upper Canada suitable to correspond with on the subject have been supplied.

In the mean time the accounts received through other channels, respecting the state of the tribes on the United States frontier, and within the province of Canada, fully confirm the apprehensions that the policy both of the British local government, and also of the United States, has been perseveringly directed to promote the removal of the Indians from their present locations. This information at the same time proves the increase of civilization and settled habits among some of the tribes, and their consequent increased reluctance to abandon their settlements, and again seek in the desert a support wholly derived from the chase."

The appointment of the Earl of Durham on a special mission to the North American Colonies of Great Britain, appearing to present a very favourable opportunity for endeavouring to advocate the