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OJIBWA INDIANS.

My very dear Friend, and Brother in the Lord.

In consequence of the continued inability of my beloved wife to attend to much writing, I have undertaken to make this annual statement, respecting that work of mercy among those poor Aborigines, our fellow-subjects in Canada,. which the liberality and Christian kindness of her friends have enabled her for several years to carry on.

I very gladly devote a few spare hours to so good a work, and the more readily because, instead of making a formal report, I ean embody the information, to be given to the subscribers, in the form of a letter to you, which will at once let my pen run easily along, in all the freedom and simplicity of friendship, and turn the labour into a pleasure.

By this means also our friends will see, more distinctly, how much they are indebted to your invaluable Society for giving a standing and permanence to the work in which they have shown so much interest, and be the better able to appreciate the proposal, about to be made, respecting future contributions towards the object.

Before I go further, however, it may be well, for the information of some into whose hands this paper may fall, to rehearse a little of the history of this effort, and to show what it aimed at, and what it accomplished, as already made known in former printed papers.

Some years ago the idea was tardily conceived by the government of Upper Canada of attempting to induce the remnants of those great Indian tribes, which once ruled that mighty continent, to adopt the habits of civilized life, and to give up for ever, the wild mode of subsistence of their forefathers by the chase, every year making it more miserable and precarious, by the advance of the white man on the forest. For this purpose a little settlement was formed on one of the Manitoulin islands of Lake Huron, under a superintendent, who was to be a friend and adviser to the Indians in all matters, and a teacher of the arts of civilized life, especially agriculture. The other officers