

them with the executive government, and to cherish those feelings of affection with which they regard the sovereign of the British dominions.

I am aware, however, that there may be impediments to such a course which have not occurred to me; and I do not therefore desire you to consider the foregoing instructions as imperative. But I should be anxious that, if not the precise measure which I have suggested, some other of a similar description should be forthwith adopted.

In furnishing me with a report of the steps which you may take in this matter, I request that you will advert to the statement in Mr. Jones's letter, respecting the annuity granted to the river Credit Indians in return for their lands; and that you will supply me with an explanation of the alleged reduction of the sum which had been agreed on as a permanent payment. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GLENELG.

The confidence of the Wesleyan Missionary Society in the efficacy of this despatch was strong, and announced in the Watchman newspaper of the 27th of June, 1838, in the following terms:

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Augustus d'Este, and the Rev. Robert Alder, had an interview with Lord Glenelg at the colonial office on Saturday last, for the purpose, as we understand, of communicating with his lordship on the subject of the Indian reserves in the province of Upper Canada. The treaty which was entered into by Sir F. B. Head with a portion of the Saugeeng Indians, for the relinquishment, on their part, to the crown, of their territory in the Huron tract, comprising a million and a half of acres of the finest land in the province, in connexion with other measures adopted by the executive towards that deeply injured race, produced a degree of distrust and apprehension in the minds of the Christian Indians at the different mission stations in Upper Canada, under the care of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, which greatly interrupted their progress in the path of improvement, and have been the means of breaking up one or two of those settlements. Under these circumstances, the committee of that society have on various occasions brought this very important affair under the consideration of her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the colonies, and it is due to the noble lord who fills that high station, to add that we have been informed that he has manifested the utmost willingness to listen to their representation, and to redress the wrongs of the poor Indian.

It will afford great satisfaction to the friends of missions, and especially to those who take a deep interest in the progress of scriptural Christianity amongst the red men of the west, to learn that a despatch has been addressed by Lord Glenelg to the present excellent Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, on the subject of Indian title-deeds, which will secure to the evangelized Indians and their posterity the possession in perpetuity of the lands on which they are located, and which they have to some extent improved and cultivated. The settlement of this question is of incalculable advantage to the Indians, and the announcement of it to them will contribute to bind them still more closely to the mother country, an object of great national importance in the present critical state of the Canadas.

Soon afterward further efforts were thought needful to secure the land; and in September, 1838, Peter Jones, the envoy of the Indians of the river Credit, presented a petition from them to the queen in person, praying that the land on which they are settled, and which they have to a considerable extent cultivated and improved, might be secured to them and to their posterity.