EMIGRATION TO THE MISSOURI.

John Papunhank at Friedenshutten. (See p. 190.) At that time he wore a tomahawk in his girdle, and when asked what he intended to do with it, replied ; " to cleave the missionaries' sculls for deceiving the Indians." He despised and ridiculed the Gospel way of salvation, saying, "I have another way to be saved, according to my creation."* This enmity he exhibited on all occasions, until the infirmities of age put a stop to his activity. But he had heard words which "laid hold of his soul;" and when he was laid on a bed of sickness he sent for the assistant Jacob, to "show him the right way." He was afterwards visited by the missionary, and the change wrought in his heart by the Holy Spirit was made manifest in the most striking manner. On the occasion of his baptism the Indians were delighted, saying, "Onim, our enemy, is become our brother Leonard."

In the year 1823 the remaining members of the Indian congregation at Goshen joined their brethren at Fairfield. About the same time, also, their number was further augmented by several from among the heathen. The course of the congregation from that period until the present year, was marked by few events of importance. They enjoyed outward tranquillity, but a decay of internal life became perceptible. In the year 1834 a desire to emigrate exhibited itself in the congregation. They learned that several Delaware towns are located on the Arkansas river, 500 miles west of the Mississippi, and two brethren were deputed to reconnoitre that district. Their report was unfavourable; but the minds of the majority of the Indians continued bent on emigration, and in the month of June last, they put their design into execution. About 200 left Fairfield, accompanied by the missionary Jesse Vogler. Only about 80 now remain in the settlement. The emigrants intended to proceed across Lake Huron and Green Bay, and thence to the Missouri. May the Great Shepherd lead them in safety, and overrule this singular event to the promotion of His glory, and the spread of the Gospel among many tribes yet sitting in Pagan darkness.

* An Indian phrase, signifying, "according to the appointment of 'he Great Spirit."

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