

held on the following Monday. This day, in accordance with the resolution, was held last Monday, notwithstanding it being in the midst of spring work, it was well attended. Many trees and shrubs were planted and the church yard cleared of rubbish. The graves, I am sorry to say were not touched, though it was one of the objects set forth, the said resolution to level and sod the graves.

PARRY ISLAND.

MARCH, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—I have made up my mind to write you an occasional letter from the Island which I hope will be of interest to the many readers of your very interesting paper, THE INDIAN. The first item I have to write about, though late, is about a tea-meeting held here this spring. The Indians from Shawanaga and Parry Island attended a grand tea-party in the Town Hall, Parry Sound, gotten up by our pains-taking local Superintendent, Thomas Walton, Esq., M. D., on 26th February last. It was a grand success. His lordship, the Bishop of Algoma, was present and delivered an interesting as well as an instructive speech. The Rev's Messrs. Gaveller and Clank, as well as the Doctor's speeches were interpreted by the Rev. A. Salt. Speeches were also made by Chiefs Sol. James, of Shawanaga, and Chief Peter Megis, Parry Sound. We also had the celebrated war dance by Nanabush and R. King. Wm. King sang and drummed on the tom-tom. I could not say too much of the Dr. and his family who lavished upon us such varieties of cakes, pies and apples and good tea. Singing was furnished by the choirs of both Bands of Indians, I occupying the place at the organ. Miss Walton was dressed in an Indian costume presented to her by the Indians last Christmas at a xmas tree held in Parry Island. She looked lovely. Owing to the extremely cold day and the roads being so slippery, the old women did not turn out, though the Dr. sent his son to bring them.

Yours,

BELLA.

OSHWOKEN.

From the Brantford Courier.

SPRING WORK.

The spring work among some of our native farmers has commenced, and many are beginning to put their seed grain into their fall ploughed fields; and the ground works good. Fall wheat in high lands is improving very much, while in the low lands or black mucky land it is not so good. Chief Joseph Henry has 25 acres of fall wheat as good as anyone ever wished to see, and if nothing prevents natural growth he will be abundantly rewarded for his hard work last summer. It is very gratifying to notice that many of the natives are beginning to see the necessity of industry in this direction. The clay roads on the Reserve are yet very rough. The bridges and culverts are, however, not so badly damaged as was noticed in other years.

FISHING.

Quite a number of the fishermen had fine sport spearing pike at the Pike Island on McKenzie Creek, near this place.

OFF FOR ENGLAND.

Some of the Indians at this point are preparing to take a trip to England during the summer. I consider it would be a grand thing if a delegation of chiefs would go and visit the Mother Country and take with them the Six Nation brass band in full costume to represent the people of the Six Nations of the Grand River.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Josiah Hill and her niece, Maggie, are still away visiting friends in Lewiston Reservation, N.Y. While there Mrs. Hill is taking advantage of the doctor's treatment for hiccup. Mrs. Richard Hill also started off on Friday last to see her father, who is said to be very ill.

AN OLD CHIEF GONE.

A few days ago one of the old and respected chiefs was laid to his long resting place in the Kayengeh Cemetery. For a good many years he did not confine himself to work and the duties of chief, but worked with the missionaries of the Baptist denomination, who are sent down to us to labor among the people trying to save souls for God. The late chief had labored much among the people and no doubt he has been called to come up higher to receive his reward. The late chief was one of the grandchildren of old White Man, who lived on the south side of the Grand River, between Brantford and Paris. He was 87 years old. He had a large family of sons, daughters and grand children to mourn his loss, and the chiefs in council will feel his loss as well as the Baptist Church at Strong school house.

SERVICES.

Last Sunday services took place at the residence of Chief Richwood Hill, and at 4 p.m. in the Council House, brother T. B. W. Henderson, of Brantford, acting pastor for the third Baptist Church, of Oshweken, preached at both places very instructive sermons.

In the evening a prayer meeting took place at the residence of Chief Richard Hill, and that little meeting went off very encouraging in many ways and brethren and sisters apparently were blessed at the close of the meeting.

TYENDINAGA RESERVE.

Miss Lydia Hill is this week visiting friends in Deseronto.

Mr. Peter Hill has taken charge of Chief S. Green's farm who will manage the farm for the Chief, and it is rumoured that the Chief will soon sail for England to renew acquaintances.

Many of the white tenants are removing from the Reserve, owing to failure in payment of rents.

Mr. William Clause says that he is going to build a new residence on his farm this summer; this will make a great improvement to Mr. Clause's farm.

Mrs. Susan M. Maracle is this week the guest of her sister, Mrs. Dow Clause, near Shannonville.

Mr. Jesse Green has purchased a span of horses and intends to run his own farm. Good on your head Jesse, this is the way we like to see our young men take advantage of the Reserve.

The churches were unusually largely attended on Sunday; there were over three hundred Mohawks at Christ Church in the morning and also to receive the Holy Communion, the largest congregation for some time. All Saints Church was also well attended in the afternoon.

VESTRY MEETING.

The annual Vestry Meeting was held in Christ Church, Mohawk Reserve, on Easter Monday morning. The Incumbent took the chair at 10 o'clock a.m., and immediately called on those present to record their names in the book which had been provided for the purpose; when 23 declared that they were members of the Church of England and connected with no other religious body. Walter A. Brant was then appointed vestry clerk, after the audit committee had done its work and the finances were found in a satisfactory condition from the time the present Incumbent had taken charge of the parish, and accounts passed. The Incumbents appointed Mr. Alex. Loft, who had discharged the duty for several years under his predecessor, Clergyman's Warden for Christ Church, and the Vestry elected Mr. Jacob B. Brant for People's Warden.

In All Saints Church Mr. Thos. Clause was chosen by the clergyman as his warden and Mr. Isaac W. Green was the choice of the people. No lay delegate having been appointed for 1885, there were two vacancies which were filled by the election of Mr. John A. Loft for three years and Chief Annosothkah for the term of two years.

After much business had been transacted, including the appointment of committee to bring the subject of necessary repairs to the Parsonage before the Council of the Band, the following resolution was moved by ex-Chief Thomas Clause, seconded by Church Warden Alex. Loft, and carried unanimously:—"That whereas this Vestry had never before put on record its appreciation of Chief Annosothkah's services to the Band in collecting funds in England to build a mission school house in the secluded part of our Reserve, and its indebtedness to him for securing from the New England Company a sufficient sum to maintain a teacher; be it therefore resolved, that a vote of thanks be now tendered him for what he has done for his people."

It was subsequently moved by Lay Delegate John P. Loft, seconded by C. W., Isaac W. Green, and carried unanimously:—"That since our Parish Church is in a dilapidated condition, and the funds of the Band is not in a position to build it; be it therefore resolved, that Chief Annosothkah be requested to proceed to England at as early a date as possible, to select subscriptions towards the accomplishment of this desirable object."

The usual vote of thanks were passed to the officers of the church, and the vestry meeting of 1886, A. D., adjourned at 2:30 o'clock p.m. The Incumbent pronounced the Benediction, and all returned to their homes well pleased with the harmony which characterized the proceedings.—*Deseronto Tribune.*