

generally are very anxious, and the chiefs say that if many perish not now by the sword, many must die of hunger, for they have nothing to live on and would not be able to plant; that Pipe, with Wyandots, Delawares, some Tawas and Chippewas, also Mingoes, had gone to Fort Harmar, about a hundred, and they were not yet come back.

Wednesday, 31. We assembled about eleven o'clock for the close of the year, having first a love-feast. We called to mind the great kindness and mercy enjoyed from our dear Lord this year, and encouraged one another to give him praise and thanksgiving therefor. We find also at the end of this year manifold causes to be grateful and thankful, for he always does better and more blessedly in all cases than we can hope or expect. We asked his forgiveness of all our faults and shortcomings and for his acknowledgment of us, his poor and wretched creatures. We thanked him in particular for the outward quiet he had lent us this year during our course here below, and we commended ourselves farther to the protection and oversight of our dear Father in Heaven, especially as we again find ourselves in uncertain circumstances, not knowing whether we must soon again take the pilgrim's staff in our hands and wander away, where the Saviour, our only refuge, conducts us, not after one or another particular way and manner, and guides us for our good, and should it happen, as appears probable, we know not at all whither we shall retire to find for ourselves a place of refuge.

In outward affairs our heavenly Father has blessed us, has given us bread and maintenance, by richly blessing our fields, though in spring and summer there was much want and hunger among our brethren, and though hunting was bad, and they could get little thereby, yet we must wonder how they got clothing, so that they always have it in their need, and go about better clad than the savages, who have some silver hanging in their ears, their noses, and about their necks [which is their grand array], but otherwise are almost naked and quite poor. All the Indians who come to us are then in perfect poverty, have