

# WESLEYAN MISSIONARY NOTICES.

AUGUST 1st, 1855.

It is satisfactory that the respected writer of the following narrative is not limiting himself. We have our affecting reminiscences of Grape Island, and shall look with pleasure for his description of that lovely spot for our next publication. The work done there would fill an enchanting volume. This continuation interests us so much, that the venerable narrator must allow us to say, we should like to see from his pen, in octavo, "Recollections of the first half century of Methodism in Canada."

## ACCOUNT OF ALNWICK MISSION.

BY THE REV. WILLIAM CASE.

(Continued.)

The Society of converted Indians, thus formed at Belleville, on the 31st of May, 1826, the work of conversion progressed powerfully, extending from Wig-ke-waurn to Wig-ke-waurn, the voice of prayer and praise repeatedly and almost continually resounding day and night, until the 15th of June, when a new and still more exciting scene occurred at a Camp Meeting on Carmahan's Bay.

The Indians having signified a wish to be present on that occasion they were encouraged to attend, believing that at a "*woods meeting*" these *natives of the forest* might feel themselves as much, or more, at home as in the chapel at Belleville. It was hoped, too, that the faith of these new converts might be strengthened by a communion with so numerous a body of christians of the *white brethren*. A portion of the Camp-ground was accordingly allotted them in the rear of the white people, yet within the enclosure, that they might be secure from the gaze of curiosity.

Thus prepared for the reception of the natives, it was soon announced that a "*fleet of Indian Canoes*" was in sight on the Bay, when a few of us repaired to the shore to welcome our new friends, and conduct them to the encampment. We found about sixty landing from their bark canoes. Their cooking utensils, guns, spears, &c., were unloaded, the barks for covering the tents were in rolls, and ready to be borne on the heads of the squaws. All in readiness, the

Indians took each a canoe reversed on the head; the women followed with barks and blankets; the children bearing kettles in hand; the whole body then advanced, Indian file, to the encampment.

We had previously caused the exercises to cease, not knowing what effect the numerous voices in different parts of the encampment might have on the minds of the Natives newly from the forest, and entirely unacquainted with a scene so novel. We wished, too, that the entrance of the natives into the christian encampment for the first time might be witnessed by the whole congregation.

As few of the congregation knew of the arrival of the Indians, their sudden appearance created considerable emotion; the first was that of *astonishment*: they gazed with amazement; then reflecting on the former wild and wretched state of these *wild men of the woods*, contrasted with their present hopeful appearance, and calling to mind too the many prayers for the heathen, and seeing their petitions fulfilled before their eyes, surprise gave place to feelings of gratitude and delight; they broke forth into shouts of praise, and gave glory to God for the salvation of the Heathen.

When the Indians arrived at that part of the ground assigned them, laying down their burden they kneeled and prayed for some time, the pious portion of the whites joining in petitions for God's blessing on these strangers, and that *the blessings of Gospel grace might be*