

and Angels Sing," in the Ojibway tongue. The evening service was read the people joining unheartily in the prayers and responses and listening attentively to the lessons for the season. The Missionary spoke to them about the "Shepherds keeping watch over the flock by night when glory shone around and the angel of the Lord announced the fact that the Son Jesus Christ the Saviour was born. The preacher reminded the Indians that this happened on the Christmas eve 1884 years ago or more that probably near the time when they were gathered together, it was, that the glory of God shone round about these shepherds who were keeping their lonely watch on the fields of Judea, and the angel announced the glad tidings of great joy which should be to all people, *et* that the Saviour of mankind was born. This glad tidings of great joy had reached even to the Ojibway Indians and they met together to commemorate the Saviour's birth and to hear the glad tidings of the gospel of salvation. To them the offers of salvation were held out for their acceptance, the salvation which Christ the Lord came into the world to procure for them. The Indians listened devoutly while the Incarnation was explained to them, and after singing the Christmas hymn again the service ended with benediction.

The missionary noticed with surprise the absence of the chief and his family. It was singular, considering the fact that he instigated the service, that he should be absent. He came around about half an hour after the service was over enquiring why the bell had not rung, he was ~~told that the bell had been rung twice some time before and the service was over.~~ I was at home ~~said he~~ listening for the last two or three hours for the bell but did not hear it. He was sorry, but the bell is not much larger than a cow bell and the wind was probably in the wrong direction. He went away promising to come in the morning for sure.

There was a very large attendance on Christmas morning, the sermon was a continuation of last night's thoughts on the Incarnation.

The usual Indian feast came off in the evening, preparations commencing in the afternoon. At six the feast commenced, everything was essentially Indian, there were bread cakes of all sizes, pork potatoes and fish but no game this year. I suppose partridges and hares are scarce. The Indians sat down according to age. The elder ones occupying first place sitting down as their names were called out by the master of the feast. When those were finished they commenced entertaining the rest with music. The young men got out their music book, an old volume of church music, and sang in parts some Indian hymns to the old tunes such as Antioch West and Wareham. One hymn especially was well rendered, I forget the name of the tune. After all the Indians had eaten and were filled, Speech making commenced, the chief making a very good one exhorting his people to earnestness in religion and consistency in life and conduct. The missionary followed with a few remarks suitable to the occasion, seconding the speech from the chief.

Everything went off well. The people all shook hands with the missionary and his wife and retired. The Christmas tree at Shequiandah was a grand

success this year. Some presents were sent last fall by the C. W. M. A. of Toronto for the children of this mission, dolls, necklaces, trumpets, knives, marbles, articles of clothing etc., were all hung on the tree. A number of small candles that lighted the tree formed a chief feature and gave great pleasure. Anything in the shape of an illumination seems particularly gratifying to the Indian mind. I noticed this in connection with the Chinese lanterns. The tree looked very pretty indeed. Santa Claus caused great amusement, with his white beard and hair and diminutive figure. He gave away the presents to all as they were taken from the tree. One little boy was afraid of him and caused much merriment by approaching very near and then quickly drawing back before taking his present. After a while he mustered up courage sufficient to take his toy gun from the hand of the mysterious person in the white beard. Among the toys were some kaleidoscopes which seemed to amuse the people very much. I do not think they had ever seen anything of the kind before. The articles of clothing were very acceptable to the poor children and if the ladies of Toronto could see how useful their gifts are it would rejoice their hearts.

There is an Indian settlement at Sucker Creek, service and Sunday school is held there every two weeks. As the children had had no Sunday school Christmas tree before, part of the gifts were reserved to furnish a tree for them. Accordingly the Missionary made his way over there to prepare the tree in the house or rather shanty where service and Sunday school is generally held. A very nice tree was found in the bush near at hand and the boys drew it over on the hand sleighs. It was erected in the highest part of the shanty and decorated with gifts. The Indians supplied some paper flowers that all added to its attractiveness and the candles were tied in their places with wire taken from an old broom. The children collected in the early part of the afternoon before it was dark enough to light the candles and they were very impatient to begin. Their mouths watered for the toys and candies. However we sang hymns until the time arrived to light the tree. It looked nearly as well as that at Shequiandah. The gifts were distributed so that each child received something, and each one a bag of candies. The toy guns seemed to be popular with the boys and the dolls with the girls. Altogether it was a pleasant affair.

F. F.

The signs are increasing that among the Jews of Continental Europe there is a movement towards Christianity. The latest indication of this kind is the appearance of a new political and literary paper in Vienna, published in Hebrew, and called *Ha'kol* (The Voice), which takes a decidedly friendly position toward Christianity in this burning question. On the other hand, the ultras among the Israelites are beginning to publish words of warning, and are hoisting the danger signals. In the whole Jewish world of Europe, especially in the Eastern countries, there is a fermentation going on, which Christians should watch with interest.