

township on the eastern side of this lake, where a small portion of land has been allotted to them. But, as yet, they have no title for it; on which account they entertain strong fears that they may, at no distant period, be driven from it also."

This unsettledness and these removals of the Indians from place to place, have subjected the Missionary Society to heavy losses, and very greatly retarded its labours in behalf of the Indians. The Committee are happy to learn that His Excellency the Governor General has ordered an investigation into the affairs of the Indians; an investigation which the Committee hope will result in justice to the Indians, and in placing their interests upon a sure and settled foundation. Their settlement in one place and incorporation into one body, with a proper title for their lands, would, the Committee may venture respectfully to suggest, contribute, in various ways, to the interests of these poor and injured people.

The Rev. S. Hurlburt, after detailing the facts above stated, gives the following account of his Mission. His letter is dated "Orillia, May 3, 1841."

"I am somewhat particular in thus noticing, at some length, the temporal condition of my Indian brethren, from a strong conviction of the important bearing it has on their *spiritual* condition. Though temporalities must always be viewed in subordination to the more important concerns of religion; yet such is the constitution of the human mind that it must, in a good degree, be free from the pressing anxieties occasioned by acts of flagrant injustice to prosper much in religion. I believe the influence of religion to be a most efficient instrument in civilizing mankind. When you take men from the wandering state of barbarians, and congregate them in settlements or villages, you then cut off their hopes of sustenance by the chase; so that there must then be a recognition of individual property, which creates a necessity for the cultivation of the soil. Wherever the influence of the Gospel has subdued the hearts of the Indians, they have invariably expressed an anxious desire to learn the arts of civilization—to live like 'good white men.' Reason must approve of the choice, and humanity would dictate every measure calculated to favour so laudable a desire. We need not wonder, when all the obstacles encountered by our brethren are taken into account, that they have prospered no more. Indeed, it is a matter of thankfulness that they have prospered as much as they have—that so few of them have turned back from the ways of religion and truth. As a people, they are, in their moral and religious character, worthy of the imitation of their more enlightened neighbours; and we think our Leaders especially would suffer nothing by a comparison with the Leaders of any Indian Mission, or with the Leaders generally among white people. We speak from actual experience of the character of these men.

"The school in Rama has since my last report. (See The house then occupied by was kind enough to give it of his house again, so that directed the man employed school and meeting-house, has revived our hopes a little disadvantages since our chapel, school-house, nor promote the interests of the for the accommodation of place. Of this the Commi

"Permit me now to say, cleared last summer probably sown to wheat last autumn which have been a great benefit been made tolerably comfortable seed, and for their own clothing. Should their wheat last another year.

"The *Snake Island* in this place. Till within a Williams, who is now with a local preacher; and we little in their temporal matters wheat. They raised last their spiritual condition very often since our appearance was as often as we the bad state of the ice, Teacher with them, we have

"The temporal condition This has been occasional money have been expended less than thirty dwelling houses, with the exception dilapidated state. They have been rented by a few a desolate point, about ten log houses, erected with removed to the township they have no land of their Nottawasaga, where they pally upon the chase for some years past. Our The school, when they Indian funds. Of course

"There is one thing, cause of discouragement Indians. It would be nothing in their morals have been, in the way of number is small compared