

their solicitation and with the approval of the government, members of the Society attended treaties held with them, and endeavored to promote pacific and kindly feelings; and as the settlements of the whites more and more circumscribed the hunting grounds of the Indians, Friends labored to direct their attention to farming as a source of supply, instead of the precarious results of the chase, furnishing them with seeds, agricultural implements, saw-mill-irons, and other facilities for a more civilized mode of life.

These labors of love, proceeding from a spirit of true Christian sympathy with the poor and declining class of their fellow-men, increased and strengthened the interest felt in their welfare; and in grateful recollection of the kindness shown by them to our forefathers, when few in number and pressed by want, Friends believed it right to adopt and carry into effect some more systematic and permanent plan for meliorating the condition of some of the bands of Indians whose locations were most contiguous or accessible.

The celebrated Chief Corn Planter addressed a letter to Friends of Philadelphia in the year 1791, of which the following is an extract, viz:—

Brothers; The Seneca Nation see that the Great Spirit intends they should not continue to live by hunting, and they look round on every side and enquire, "Who it is that shall teach them what is best for them to do? Your fathers dealt honestly by our fathers, and these have engaged us to remember it. We wish our children to be taught the same principles by which your fathers were guided.

"Brothers! We have too little wisdom among us, and we cannot teach our children what we see their situation requires them to know. We wish them to be taught to read and write, and such other things as you teach your children; especially the love of peace."