

APPENDIX.

UNCONNECTED PAPERS.

OJIBWAH INDIANS.

SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE MORAVIAN CHURCH,

BY JAMES MONTGOMERY, Esq.

ETC., ETC.

OJIBWA INDIANS

OF

LAKE HURON.

A FEW months ago, a brief account of the Mahnetooahning Mission was printed, in order more readily to supply information to those friends who had kindly contributed towards the important object of sending a Female Teacher to that Settlement. It pleased the Lord to raise up one admirably suited for this labour of love, and through the kindness of the Colonial Church and School Society, Miss Foulkes was sent out in Oct., 1851. It cannot fail to be interesting to those friends who first gave encouragement to this effort, to read the following extracts from letters since received. It is also hoped that they may thereby be induced to continue their support, inasmuch as they will perceive that "their labour has not been in vain in the Lord."

It may, however, be well first to give a few short extracts from the above-mentioned paper, for the information of those who may not have seen it, and who may be wholly unacquainted with the nature of the Mission.

"The settlement of Mahnetooahning on Lake Huron, was formed in 1836, at the suggestion of Captain Anderson, for the benefit of the Ottahwa and Ojibwa Indians, who were thus taken under the immediate care and protection of the British Government, who provided for them a civil superintendent, a missionary chaplain, a surgeon, and a schoolmaster. This step was taken from a conviction that all attempts to civilize and Christianize the Indians would be in vain, unless they could be collected from the various spots in which they were scattered, and induced to settle as one body in some convenient locality. In 1841, the Rev. Dr. O'Meara was appointed by the Colonial Government as Chaplain to the Settlement, where he has been

devotedly labouring ever since, and great has been the success which, through the grace of God, has followed the faithful preaching of the Gospel among those interesting tribes. In 1846, the school-room, hitherto their only place for public worship, was found quite inadequate to accommodate the increased numbers who desired to attend. Through the indefatigable exertions of their Missionary, a sufficient sum was raised to build a church, in which a goodly congregation now assembles from Sabbath to Sabbath, to hear proclaimed, *in their own tongue*, the glad tidings of salvation. Many have been brought by God's grace to the knowledge and love of the Saviour, and are adorning his doctrine by consistent lives. Among such may especially be mentioned an aged native woman, whose sweet Christian spirit will be best shown by the following letter to an English lady :—

“ June 15th, 1848.

“ MY DEAR SISTER,—I was very happy that you were kind enough to write to me. I fully understand in my heart what you meant when you said, ‘ I was much blessed.’ That is a true word which you wrote to me. I feel most thankful to God, who has put it into your heart, of His great mercy and kindness, to be so good to me. I know, since I heard the good Word of which you speak, in this place, how true every word that you wrote to me is. I know it is the Word of life, and that they who receive it, and they alone, have eternal life. I strive, since I heard that Word, to live according to it, but sin is ever in my way, turning my attention, and making me like a foolish child. I do what you told me when you wrote; whenever I pray to my Father in heaven, I pray for you, and say, ‘ Oh, my Lord, grant that she and I may see each other in everlasting blessedness, through Him who is our blessed Lord and Saviour.’ I do not always wear the clothes you sent me: if I did they would be too soon worn out, and I want to keep them as long as I live, to make me remember how kind you are to me. I wish also to tell you, that I and my family have been spared in life and health since last I wrote to you, for which I have to thank my Lord and Owner. I shake hands with you who love me so much, on account of your love; and I also salute all in your house. I will long to hear from you again, how you, and all with you, are. This is all I have to say now.

“ ELIZA NAHWAKEZHU.”

Dr. O'Meara's labours are extensive and laborious. “ Besides the field of labour,” he writes, “ in my own immediate neighbourhood, there is another large and very important one at the north-west end of the lake, consisting of Indians and White people—the latter consisting entirely of English and Irish miners, at the Bruce Mines—where, whenever I go, I have an opportunity of addressing large congregations of our own countrymen on the Great Salvation. There is also a considerable number of natives in the same neighbourhood, professing adherence to the Church of England. I have, during the past summer, had two services on one Lord's-day in each month at this place. There is an island opposite, at about six miles distance, on which is a

settlement composed of Irish Protestants and Scotch people, and here I collect a small congregation in the afternoon of the same Sundays. The Jesuits are strengthening their position in my neighbourhood, having now three priests and two lay Jesuits, besides four others of their order at the Sault St. Marie end of my Mission."

Every communication received from that distant land draws forth fresh notes of praise, and calls loudly upon those who are living in ease and comfort at home, *to do all they can* to strengthen the hands of those who are thus zealously labouring in so remote and isolated, a spot, amidst difficulties and privations. With regard to dear Miss Foulkes it may truly be said that "*she forsook all and took up the cross and followed Christ.*"

Those who read the following account, will assuredly rejoice that they had the privilege of assisting to send out one who will, by God's help, prove a blessing to that whole Indian race:—

Extract of a Letter from Dr. O'MEARA when at Toronto, whither he had gone in order to superintend the printing of his translation of the Gospels:—

"Toronto, October 25th, 1851.

"I have received your truly acceptable letter, bringing news as joyful as it is unexpected. My dear wife is equally overjoyed with me at the prospect of soon having so devoted a servant of Christ with us in the work of the gospel. I cannot look without astonishment and gratitude to the Lord for all His dealings toward us in regard to this matter. It is only a few days since I received information from Mrs. O'Meara, that the person who occupied temporarily the situation of schoolmaster (a most unfit person) had suddenly left the island altogether, without giving any notice, and thus the poor children would have been left entirely without any teaching this winter. My mind was beginning to be much concerned on this point, when your most welcome and joyful letter arrived; which, at the same time that it gave the pleasing information that my fears for the lambs of my flock were not to be realized, also conveyed a convincing proof that she, into whose hands they are to be committed, is one thoroughly devoted to her blessed Master. May the Lord abundantly bless her in the interesting work in which she is about to be engaged, and give her many souls of her little flock for her hire. Mrs. O'Meara writes to express her pleasure in the prospect of having at length one with whom we can take sweet counsel together. She says she hopes she shall be able to make her comfortable during the winter, as she will of course be an inmate of our Mission-house at least till the spring. Old Eliza's husband is with me here; he has been undergoing an operation for the recovery of his sight, which, however, I am sorry to say has failed. This sore disappointment he has borne with a truly Christian spirit; declaring to the medical man that *it was religion* that supported him under the disappointment. I told him yesterday of the contents of your letter, with which he was quite delighted.

"FREDERICK A. O'MEARA.

"P.S.—You will be glad to hear that the same vessel which will bring Miss Foulkes to Mahnetooahning, will also convey the first copies of the four Gospels in the Indian language."

From Miss FOULKES.

“*New York, October 27th, 1851.*”

“I am only just going to write a few lines to let you know of my safe arrival in this place. The *Niagara* arrived here about half-past nine on Saturday morning. We had a very rough passage—contrary winds the whole of the voyage. I was very ill the whole time, and unable to taste food for eight days; but, thanks to my heavenly Father, I feel now a great deal better, though very weak. Still, though I have suffered so much, *I do not repent coming*, but rather rejoice in having done so. If I had my sufferings, I had my comforts also. I felt that Christ was in the vessel, and I had no fear. May He enable me by His grace to devote the life which He has preserved to His service. Will you ask Mr. Mackenzie to return thanks to Almighty God for my merciful preservation. The language of my soul is, ‘Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless His holy name.’”

From OLD ELIZA, the Native Christian before mentioned.

“*Mahnetooahning, Lake Huron, November 20, 1851.*”

“MY DEAR SISTER,—I write now to tell you that I have already received what came from you. I have great joy when I think how kind you have been to me. Both I and my husband have been very glad at the things which we have seen and received; and we wish to tell you how thankful we feel. I feel thankful to you for putting me in mind of Him in whom is my faith. I remember that He has told us to pray for His kingdom first, and promises that whatever we want for our bodies shall be added. We have great reason to believe this promise of God to us, when we see how abundant His kindness has been to us, for He is blessing us every day. Oh, that He may bless us more and more in our souls. I continually pray to Him with the confidence that arises from knowing of His past goodness to me. I ever pray that He will bless you as well as myself. As I love my child, who is kind to me, so I love the lady whom you have sent out to us. And I feel sensible and thankful to our heavenly Father, of whom it comes that she is now here. For I feel that she will be made the instrument by which our little ones shall know the Lord: I desire that they should know Him who died for us; and I trust that God will give His blessing on the instruction she will give my little ones (her grandchildren), so that by it they may indeed know the Lord. I feel trust, that she will teach them out of the book of our Lord, His will, and word. The little ones are already beginning to understand a little English, so as to know what is said to them. Last night I was here at my minister’s house, when I heard her read part of the gospel, which our minister has just brought to us in our own language, and I understood quite well what she read, so that I hope she will soon be able to *speak* to us in our own language. And I have also to thank you for the clothing which I hear you have sent to our little ones, that they may be warm when attending school during the winter. The little ones were many of them not clothed, but now they will be glad. Now, all I have to say to you is, that I love and salute you, your husband, and your little ones. As oft as I pray, I pray for you and yours, that, as you have given much, so the Lord would increase to you very much every good thing. When I think of you I always do so with gratitude to hear how much you are blessed of the Lord; for I know that much grace must be yours, to make you love us here so much as you do. Do write to me again to tell me how you are.

“P.S.—I received your letter, and, with the Lord’s assistance, will endeavour to keep in mind, and practise the good things that you told me in it. I have lately been very much distressed at the conduct of some of our people while the minister was away; and I prayed to God to enable me to keep silence when I was provoked, and I feel very thankful to Him that He enabled me to do so.”

From ELIZA NAHWAKEZHU's blind Husband.

"MY DEAR SISTER,—And I too wish to write to tell you how thankful I feel to the Lord and to you for the kindness which I have in my hand. For the Lord keeps me, though I am now unable to work as I used to do. I shall ever endeavour to pray to my heavenly Father to assist me to keep His word. I always pray to Him for the light of His Holy Spirit to guide me in the understanding of that which is right. I feel very thankful to your husband, the minister, for sending me of his clothes, which I have received. I am still able to go to the house of God, but I cannot tell how long that blessing will still be allowed me. I would now tell you how deeply thankful I feel to you for your kindness to me, and how I pray for you, your husband, and your children. I have ever been accustomed, since I became a Christian, to pray for my dear minister, especially when he goes away from us on his missionary journeys, and henceforth I shall join you with him in my constant prayers. I wonder at the Lord's goodness in keeping me in His faith.

"I salute you all."

From Mrs. O'MEARA.

"*Mahnetooahning, December 8th, 1851.*

"You will, I am sure, be delighted to hear that Miss Foulkes is already getting on very nicely with the school: our temporary schoolmaster resigned the situation before she came, and she is therefore teaching both boys and girls. The attendance is good. The children are very much pleased at being taught to sing, and have nearly learned to sing '*Victoria, Victoria, we hail thy gentle rule!*' in the Infant School collection which my dear husband translated for them. It is scarcely necessary for me to say how much, how *very* much we have been pleased with Miss Foulkes. I do most earnestly trust that her coming will not be in vain, but that our most merciful and gracious God will accompany her with His especial blessing, and make her an instrument in His hand for furthering His own blessed cause among this people. I must not forget to tell you that we began last Wednesday evening to have a weekly meeting of some of the adults for the purpose of Miss Foulkes teaching them to sing. The study was quite crowded, and they seemed much pleased. Miss Foulkes has already learned to *read* Indian sufficiently well to be able to sing it, though of course she cannot understand much of it yet. She was also able to teach a hymn to a little class in the Sunday-school last Sunday. I know you will feel pleasure in having been able to accomplish the fulfilment of your persevering endeavours and earnest desires before another winter had closed in, especially when you hear that never before did we stand so much in need of such help, for never did the Jesuits seem *so determined* to make one great effort for the overthrow of the Protestant faith among this people. Having a staff of six altogether close to us, they can attend to their own people, send one of their number among the heathen bands that are scattered round, and spare one too for the special benefit of '*heretic Mahnetooahning,*' whereas, if the Missionary here leave the place to look after other wandering sheep in the wilderness, he not only leaves the people without any means of grace, but exposed to all their wiles and intrigues. They have three priests, one lay-brother, a schoolmaster, and two lay-brothers, servants at Wegnamekong, the Romish village, seven miles from this, besides five or six more at the Sault St. Marie and Lake Superior, while in all that region we have not a single missionary. We are all at present in the enjoyment of good health."

From Dr. O'MEARA.

"*Mahnetooahning, January 5th, 1852.*

"You will not be surprised to hear that Miss Foulkes is quite at home with the children, who begin to feel quite attached to her; there is now not the least difficulty in getting them to attend, as they all take an interest in learning, and

some of them are already making astonishing progress. I was quite anxious before she came lest she should be deficient in that great requisite for a teacher, the art and practice of singing, the want of which both in school and church has been a great drawback to the Missionary work here, but you can imagine my delight and thankfulness when I first heard her very fine voice. As soon as she arrived here, with characteristic energy she set herself to learn the Indian Hymns and Psalms, and you will scarcely think it credible that before the end of the first week she was able to lead the singing both in church and the school in the Indian language, and with such correctness of pronunciation, that the Indians were quite astonished, and would scarcely be persuaded but that she must have learned the language somewhere else before she came here. You would be greatly surprised could you hear the little ones in the school, who a few weeks ago knew nothing about singing, raise their fifty little voices together in the praises of God so sweetly and correctly. Every time I hear them it fills my heart with praise and thankfulness to our heavenly Father. I see every reason to believe that the arrival of Miss Foulkes to our aid will prove the beginning of a new and important epoch in the work of God in these regions. I trust it is the forerunner of the accomplishment of my most earnest desire, namely, the commencement of a boarding and industrial school here, which I am daily more persuaded is the thing that is wanted in a place, and among a people like this. I know at present of many children belonging to heathen or Popish parents, who could be obtained, and so an opening made in their tribe and family by this means, when there is, humanly speaking, no probability of such being effected in any other way. The expense of supporting each child would be about £5 a-year, in addition to the clothing already secured by your annual supply. Thus for £50 a-year, ten little ones could be taken from the depths of heathenism or Popery, and brought up in that knowledge which maketh wise unto salvation, as well as that which will enable them to enter with some prospect of success on a life of civilized labour and consequent comfort. Oh how my heart yearns over these dear little children with their sweet, interesting countenances, notwithstanding their uncombed hair, and filthy and ragged appearance; and how thankful I shall feel to my heavenly Father if he should vouchsafe to make me in any way the means of rescuing them from their present state of degradation, and convert them by the Holy Spirit into so many little missionaries among their own people."

From Miss FOULKES.

"Manetoohning, January 5th, 1852.

"It is now five weeks since I commenced my school. The first day I had twenty-six scholars, since which the number has increased to sixty-eight. I am happy to tell you the children are very much attached to me, and I am quite fond of them. They seem very anxious to learn, and some of them are getting on wonderfully. Dr. O'Meara gives them their Scripture lessons each day in their own language. I am not yet capable of doing so, but I am getting on wonderfully with the language. I begin to read very well, though at present it is like a parrot; but in a few months I hope to have quite mastered it. Besides the two services on Sundays, Dr. O'Meara has service in church on Tuesdays and Thursdays; and on Mondays and Fridays he has all the young people at his house, when they learn to sing, and he addresses them and concludes with prayer. We are beginning to have beautiful singing. You would have been delighted if you could have heard the children sing on their feast day,—the day after Christmas day. As I presume you would like to know how we enjoyed ourselves on that day, I will tell you as well as I can. The children began to assemble at three o'clock; their presents were given to them; and at six they all sat down to partake of the good things Mrs. O'Meara had provided for them. The room was crowded to excess. Seventy children sat down to tea. The children's parents and friends were also present, and all seemed to enjoy

themselves, from the least to the greatest. After tea the children sang several hymns beautifully. Dr. O'Meara then examined them, and they answered remarkably well. After which Dr. O'Meara showed them the magic lantern, with which they were delighted, and were in roars of laughter. *When the Queen—or, as they call her, Keche Ogemahqua (our Great Mother)—was shown them, they began to sing that beautiful national ode, 'Victoria, Victoria, we hail thy gentle rule?' which Dr. O'Meara had translated into Indian.* After having a little more singing, they all returned to their homes at nine o'clock. I believe I enjoyed myself quite as much as the children did. I feel quite at home here. My friends treat me with as much attention as I can possibly desire, and much more than I deserve. We have privations in many respects, but enjoy all needed mercies. *The work is as glorious and desirable as ever I imagined it to be.* I had almost forgotten to tell you that we had a very large party to dinner on Christmas day. Eighteen besides ourselves, seven chiefs and their wives, and the two churchwardens and their wives: we spent a very comfortable evening.

"On New Year's Day we were visited by all the Indians in the settlement, and we had to shake hands with every man, woman, and child that came in; each received a cake and a cup of coffee, and then went to visit others. After they were gone, Dr. O'Meara drove Mrs. O'Meara and the dear children, Marion and Charles, and myself, in the sledge on the Lake: I enjoyed it very much. Yesterday, we all had a very long walk on the Lake after school-time in the afternoon. We met some Indians with sledges, bringing home loads of hay from some distance along the Lake; one of them lifted Marion and me on the top of the hay, and brought us home. I wish some of my English friends could have seen us. The Lake is splendid just now—all like one sheet of glass. However, I must now conclude. May the Lord bless you and yours with showers of the richest blessings. In your earnest supplications at the throne of Almighty grace, will you constantly plead for me, that my life may be wholly devoted to the service of my heavenly Father?"

From Dr. O'MEARA.

"Mahnetooahning, February 4, 1852.

"Miss Foulkes is all that could be desired. I wish you could hear the dear children, big and little, sing the many tunes she has already taught them. The school is in a more efficient state already than it has ever been. I look for great things from her zeal and energy; our little ones are exceedingly attached to her."

"Mahnetooahning, April 20, 1852.

"The effects of Miss Foulkes' labours, though they have not been of quite four months' duration, have already become very apparent, and of a most happy character; indeed the school may now be said to be what it never was till her arrival,—an essential and important aid in the work of the Mission. We have had a most unusually long and severe winter. The snow, which has continued here since the end of October, is only just now passing away, and the mails are still carried on the ice, which surrounds us on all sides. We do not expect to see the open water before the middle of next month. Last year we had open water on the 19th of this month; so much do our seasons vary in length and severity. I am sorry to say there is a great want of food among the Indians just now, owing to their Indian corn crop having proved a failure last year. They have not enough to carry them on to next harvest. The Indian corn is becoming every year a more uncertain crop, being only suited for ground entirely new. There is now a most excellent opening here for the introduction of wheat, for which the soil is very well suited. The erection of a mill for grinding wheat, oats, Indian corn, &c., would be an immense acquisition, and would prove a strong inducement to the natives to cultivate wheat. It would also have the effect of bringing hither the heathen and Romanist Indians, and so good would be done in every way."

From Miss FOULKES.

“ Mahnetooahning, April 20, 1852.

“ I have not had any school the last three weeks ; the Indians are all at their sugar-camps (extracting the sugar from the maple tree), and they are not likely to return for another fortnight. The children are all progressing very nicely ; they begin to sing English better than Indian. I think, before next Christmas, if we are spared, some of them will be able to read English well. I am quite pleased with them, and quite fond of them. Mrs. O’Meara has been suffering all winter with tooth-ache. I am thankful to say, I have enjoyed very good health, with the exception of head-aches. We have had a very severe winter ; continual snow-storms for five months. You would have been amused to see Mrs. O’Meara and me going to the Sunday-school two Sundays on our hands and knees part of the way. Never was such a winter known ; I have enjoyed it, though, very much ; and have not once repented coming. About a fortnight ago we went to visit some of the Indians at their sugar-camps, about five miles off. We stayed to see them make some sugar, and also helped to make some. We were so tired when we got home, that we could scarcely move. We could not walk a yard without sinking knee-deep in the snow. It is now going very rapidly.”

From Dr. O’MEARA.

“ Mahnetooahning, July 27th, 1852.

“ And now I will give you such information with regard to my operations and the welfare of the Mission, as may be interesting to you, and those who assist us in the work. You are aware of my painful position in being placed alone with so many Jesuits to contend against, whose systematically pursued object has ever been the rooting out our Mission and influence from these Lakes. You will not wonder that when I look at the vast field of my unassisted labours, and the inveterate hostility which the work in my hands has to encounter, I sometimes feel failing of heart as to the issue ; but you will be rejoiced to hear that the Lord has been of late wonderfully manifesting His mighty power on our behalf, especially since I got the four Gospels into circulation. A large number of copies has been given away to Romanist Indians who have come to me unknown to their priests, or in open and avowed opposition to their injunctions, to ask for copies of God’s Word, and of late I have had more Romanists attending my Sabbath and week-evening services than ever I remember to have had before. You will be much interested in one case, wherein my dear wife’s exertions during my absence from home this spring were much blessed. A woman residing at this place, who was a bitter Romanist, was brought out from the sugar-camp very ill of a rapid consumption. My dear wife visited and read to her, and at last, by God’s assistance, gained her attention, and at every visit was received with more hearty welcome than before. By the time I returned home the poor woman informed her friends that she had never heard such things from the priests, as she had heard from the Book so read to her, and she was determined if she recovered to have nothing more to do with them : and if she died she wished to be buried in the Protestant burial ground, and after the Protestant manner. She is still alive, and continues to receive my daily visits with the same thankfulness. Oh that I had some truly devoted fellow-labourers who would assist me in gathering in the harvest, which to my perhaps too sanguine vision, appears to be already ripe. Such are not to be had in this country, but surely the friends of the Gospel at home could find some who would give themselves to this work.”

From Miss FOULKES.

“ Mahnetooahning, August 26th, 1852.

“ Our heavenly Father has been very good to me. Bless the Lord, O my soul ! I am thankful to tell you I am enjoying very good health, though the weather is very hot. Dear Mrs. O’Meara has gone on a visit to her parents at

Orillia. Her mother has been very unwell, but she is now a little better. Mrs. O'Meara and the dear children went down on the 5th August; before they left, little Charley and baby had been ill, but they are now better. About a week after Mrs. O'Meara arrived at Orillia she sprained her ankle, and has been confined to her bed or a sofa ever since; it is now, however, much better. How true it is, "We know not what a day nor an hour may bring forth." A few days after Mrs. O'Meara left home, Dr. O'Meara went to visit the Indians at the Sault St. Marie, so I was left at home alone with the servant. On Tuesday Old Eliza's eldest son came to the school and told me that his wife was very ill, and his brother Jim's wife also—they had been taken ill the night before. I went up as soon as I came from school, and found William's wife very ill; I thought she was dying. I went from thence to Jim's, and found his wife ill, but I did not think dangerously so. They then told me her little girl was dead—she was taken ill in the night, and died at nine o'clock that morning. I then became alarmed, and called upon our medical man, and asked him what was the matter with them; he said he did not like to pronounce it Asiatic, but he thought it might be English cholera greatly aggravated. Every thing was done for them that could be done, but still they did not appear to get either better or worse. Having some work to do, I sat up that night till twelve o'clock, and then went to bed. About one o'clock our servant awoke me, she had been taken ill. I gave her essence of ginger and brandy, and did what I could for her, but finding she was getting much worse, and was very much cramped, I went about two o'clock for the doctor—he came, and gave her some medicine, and told me to rub her well with turpentine, and to put mustard to her legs: in the course of a few hours she was much better, but she was confined to her bed for a week. Several others were taken ill on Wednesday, but they all got better very soon. Jim's wife also got much better. On Thursday evening Dr. O'Meara returned, and you may imagine his surprise. He had only been away a few days, all were quite well when he left; on his return we were surrounded by sickness and death. Several of the Indians met him at the boat, and William Nahwakezhu came with him into the house. Dr. O'Meara went with him to see his wife: this was about seven o'clock; he then appeared quite well, and Dr. O'Meara came home. About nine o'clock, dear Old Eliza came down to say her son William was sick. Dr. O'Meara and the medical man went up to see him. After doing what they could they came home, having left word if he became worse they were to be sent for. About twelve o'clock dear Old Eliza came again to say he was much worse; she appeared quite fatigued, having lost so much rest. I gave her something to eat, shook hands with her, and bid her good night, but I little thought I should never see her again in this world: about three o'clock she went to the doctor's and told him she did not feel well, and while there she was sick two or three times. After having some medicine, she returned home, but did not go into the house. She remained outside singing hymns, and communing with her God all night. Dr. O'Meara went up very early in the morning; she was then very ill, and about eleven o'clock she sweetly fell asleep in Jesus: her wanderings, anxieties, and perils received a final termination, and her immortal soul has found that rest which shall never be alloyed with a rising sigh or falling tear, a rest in the bosom of her loved Redeemer. I was very much grieved to hear of her death, but why should I grieve? Our loss is her gain. May God Himself, even our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to the happy world where she dwells. The imitation of what was excellent in her life, and a watchful readiness to follow her in death, are the best honours we can pay to her memory, and the wisest improvement of the present providence. William died a few minutes after his mother, and his wife lingered until Sunday. They have left *seven little orphans*, the eldest not quite twelve years old, and the youngest about three weeks old. *I do not know what is to become of them.* I wish we had the boarding-school established. *I should like to take them every one, and be a mother to them.* The doctor advised the superin-

tendent to give all the Indians a fortnight's provisions, and send them away for a short time, in order to prevent the disease from spreading. They all left last week. Jim's wife was so much better, that he left on Tuesday, and went about six miles from hence, but on Sunday last she died. She has left two young children, one about four years old, and the other about six months. I feel very sorry for poor old Nahwakezhu, the poor old man is so very helpless; but Dr. O'Meara was quite delighted with him, he was so resigned, and said if it pleased God to call him he had no fear of death. I have not been able to have any school for the last fortnight; the children are all scattered, and the school-room is used as an hospital."

On reading the above touching account of the fatal disease which has desolated this little settlement, the first thought suggested is, *What can be done* for these seven poor little orphans? Shall they be left entirely on the hands of the devoted Missionary, whose slender means are barely sufficient to meet the necessities of his own family? or shall they be thrown back upon their heathen or Popish relatives, and thus be brought up in heathen ignorance or Romish superstition? or shall they be rescued from so fearful a calamity, placed under the kind, Christian care of the dear Teacher, who is longing to act a mother's part towards them, be trained up in the fear and love of God, and, finally, by His blessing, become so many faithful Missionaries among their own heathen tribes?

This question is importunately urged upon every one who may glance at these lines. *Will you*, kind reader, do anything to bring about so blessed a result?

Oh! that the God of the orphan, the "Helper of the fatherless," may touch the hearts of some whom He "daily loadeth with benefits," and whose "cup runneth over," to dispense of these *overflowings* to those poor orphans, and to feed them with "the bread of life."

Since writing the above remarks, the following communications have been received. They speak for themselves:—

"Mahnetooahning, September 29, 1852.

"Miss Foulkes has doubtless told you of the devastation that the cholera has made in our little community, and the loss we have sustained in the death of dear Old Eliza. Her departure to 'the rest that remaineth to the people of God' took place a few minutes before that of her eldest son, whose wife lingered for two days. *Thus seven orphan children are left without any protection*, and the Jesuits were not long in availing themselves of this circumstance, encouraged by the fact, that a great many of the relations of the children are Romanists, to rob us of these lambs, some of whom are among the most promising of Miss Foulkes' scholars. Already have four of them been in this way stolen from their blind grandfather. How deeply grieved would dear Eliza have been to see this. She was so fond of these little ones, and was always so anxious to send them to school regularly; and I know you too would be grieved had they succeeded; but you will, I am sure, be glad to know, that,

relying on the power of Him who can open the hearts and resources of His people, we have determined to take them into the Mission-house, and with them to make a beginning of our long-thought-of boarding and industrial school. I have not, it is true, the least means for doing it, but I could not mistake the voice of our heavenly Father, saying unto me, 'Take these little ones, and bring them up for Me;' surely it was not for me to stand reasoning with Him as to the means, when I know that the gold and silver are His. I feel assured, my dear friend, of your doing what you can to interest the friends of Missions on behalf of those dear little ones. The old man is to give them to me by a written document, so that I shall be able to take those who have been carried away, from their Popish relatives. But distressing circumstances seldom come alone. As soon as the cholera made its appearance, those of the Indians, who were not at once attacked with it left the place; when they returned, after some weeks, they found the Indian corn crop a complete failure, in consequence of the severe drought of the summer. This completed the dismay which the pestilence had begun; and I am sorry to say that our people are leaving this in great numbers to pass the winter in the neighbourhood of White Settlements, where they hope to obtain some means of subsistence. Miss Foulkes is very much cast down at the reduction thus made in her school. Instead of seventy or eighty children, there will not, this winter, be more than thirty or forty. It is truly distressing to see the apathy as to Missions, among the heathen, which prevails in this province. Here I am *alone*, having upwards of two hundred miles of coast to travel over in summer and winter, with enemies active, numerous, and unscrupulous; while, in the same space, there are nine Jesuits. What will be the result of this state of things it is impossible to say; but for some time anxiety has been telling on my health, and, after several warnings, I have had a serious attack which obliged me to seek the best medical advice. I am told that medicine can do little, and that rest and a sea voyage are most likely to accomplish a cure. The bishop very kindly urged me to have recourse to these remedies at once, but I did not feel myself at liberty to quit my post in the present position of things. I feel deeply thankful that I returned to my Missionary work, for had I been absent when the scattering of the people took place, I should have blamed myself as the cause. As it is, I feel that it is the Lord's hand, and however dark the dispensation now seems, we know that '*all things* work together for good to them that love God.' It is truly grievous to see the little flock, which had been collected from the wilderness, and over which we rejoiced, thus scattered by a second year of famine. Still, it is sweet and truly comforting to feel that the work is the Lord's, and that He will order all things aright.

"Yours very truly in the Lord,

"FREDERICK A. O'MEARA."

From Miss FOULKES.

"Mahnetooahning, September 29th, 1852.

"I should be very glad of some hoods for the girls, and common caps for the boys to wear on Sundays. Also for shirts, and anything in the way of coats and trousers for them. I am sorry I cannot tell you much about my school; the Indians are so scattered at present that I have very few children, and I am afraid I shall not have more for some time. The few that I have, are progressing very nicely. It makes me very low-spirited to see them wandering away, but *what can* the poor people do; they are obliged to go, for they have no food here. I hope they will come back in the spring. The Lord's will be done. At present a cloud seems to hang over the mission; everything seems to be in a state of uncertainty. We cannot tell what a day may bring forth, but *this we do know*, we are in the hands of a merciful God, and He will order all things for the best. We are commanded to 'Cast all our care upon Him, for He careth for us.'"

Christian friends are earnestly asked whether the conduct of this devoted servant of God, who has thus nobly opened his heart and his house for the reception of these *Seven Orphans*, does not form an *irresistible claim* upon their generous aid. Who among us would have done likewise? We are living in ease and comfort, or luxury at home, perhaps denying ourselves little for Christ's sake. Shall we suffer this great burden to rest upon one who is labouring amidst difficulties and privations in an isolated spot on distant shores, far away from those who might cheer and encourage him, and possessed of means barely sufficient for the increasing wants of his own family? This can never be, and, therefore, it is proposed at once to form a separate fund, expressly for the support of this Orphan School now established under the Missionary's roof.

Donations or Annual Subscriptions towards this object will be most gratefully received by Mrs. KINGSMILL, Chaplain's House, Pentonville Prison, London.

ALREADY RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rev. J. Kingsmill . . .	1	0	0	Rev. S. Unwin . . .	0	10	6
By the Rev. J. Dobie . .	1	0	0				

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Towards the Support of the Teacher, received since the printing of the last Paper.

1852.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rev. J. Hopkins	1	0	0	Miss Sophia Payne, by Miss			
A Friend, by Mrs. Merry . .	0	10	0	Cecil	0	10	0
Burton-street Sunday-school,				Right Hon. the Earl of Car-			
by Miss Howell	0	10	0	lisle	10	0	0
Rev. J. Bywater's School,				Joshua Marriott, Esq., by			
Manchester	0	9	6	Rev. J. Dobie	5	0	0
Rev. J. Kingsmill	0	10	0	By Miss Dodd	0	3	6
Miss Cock	0	5	0	By Miss Blythe	1	0	0
Mrs. Christian	0	5	0	Mrs. Atkinson	0	5	0
Rev. Henry Deck	0	5	0	A Friend, by ditto	0	2	6
Mrs. Johnston and family . .	5	0	0	R. Atkinson, Esq.	0	10	0
Mrs. Eliza Barclay	2	0	0	Miss Clare	0	5	0
R. Barclay, Esq.	1	0	0	Mrs. Burt	1	0	0
J. G. Barclay, Esq.	2	0	0	J. Compton, Esq.	1	1	0
Mrs. Royston	0	5	0	Mrs. Cohen	0	5	0
Miss Cecil	1	0	0				

NOTE.—The proceeds of two former years' collection—upwards of £30—were handed over to the Colonial Church and School Society, upon their adoption of the Mission.

The sum of £18 1s. 9d. has also been kindly contributed, during this year and the last, towards purchasing the annual supply of clothing sent to this Mission.