

CHRISTIAN NATION

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A-TAK-O-NY, and Family.


DAVID, and Family.

"And these two, as I have told you,
Were the friends of Hiawatha;
Long they lived in peace together,
Spoke with naked hearts together."

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OUR INDIAN MISSION.



UNTAUGHT INDIAN CHILDREN AS OUR MISSIONARY FINDS THEM.

COMMUNION AT THE INDIAN MISSION.

Rev. J. C. McFeeters, D. D.

The services at the summer communion in our Indian Mission occupied the time very fully from the 10th to the 20th of June. Our beloved missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. Carithers and their faithful helpers, had the work so well planned that little was to be done or could be done during all that time, but wait upon the Lord in the ordinances of grace. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Pritchard, whose genial company made the journey to the mission exceedingly pleasant, rendered valuable assistance at the numerous meetings. Upon our arrival on Saturday previous to preparation Sabbath, after a cordial reception in the home and at the table of the missionaries, where we had the pleasure also of meeting the teachers, we were informed concerning the services, and forthwith, at the ringing of the bell, were led to the house of worship. With feelings of awe we entered the dear little church, well remembering that there the divine manifestations had been in former days enjoyed in an unusual manner. It was an evening prayer meeting. The Indians, men and women, boys and girls, mothers and infants, about eighty in number, were present. Perhaps forty-five children were there, singing psalms of praise to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The whole service seemed very solemn and impressive. The Sabbath came bright with Christ's love, and was hailed with great anticipations and desires. A solemn quietness rested on all around us, and upon the great prairie stretching afar on every side to the very rim of the sky. The Indians having one camp on the east of the church and another on the west, moved quietly about their tents, as if they felt the presence of Him whose day it was.

At 10.30 a. m. the first service was held, being conducted by Mr. Carithers. He preached from Isaiah 55:1. With great earnestness and with the power of the Spirit he exhibited Jesus, the source and sustainer of all life. Albert was the interpreter. Albert —. He may have an additional name. We neither know nor care. He has no need of another. There is only one Albert, and if he continues in humbly serving the Lord, as he has begun, he will always be known, not by his name so much as by his work and his character. He interpreted for all of the speakers. Truly, the burden fell upon him. The church was well filled at this and all the services this Sabbath. We had two other meetings at 3.30 and 6 p. m. The devout attention by all present was remarkable. Truly, it seemed that the Lord had gathered these 300 or 400 Indians from the distant places and was raining upon them the droppings of the Gospel for a glorious purpose to be revealed in the great day. The lovely evening came like the soft breathings of the Spirit, and I think all the children of our Heavenly Father at that mis-

sion felt that a continual benediction had been descending upon us from morning till night.

All through the week the services continued at the same hours—10.30, 3.30 and 6 o'clock. Besides, another was added at 8 p. m. in the home of Rev. Mr. Carithers, especially for those in the service of the mission. This being over, we engaged in family worship, which, in the home of our missionary, was by no means the least of all the delightful services of the day. Since the family circle was always large, with the number of guests, and each one in turn offered a prayer and not a "sentence" prayer, but the outpouring of a full heart. Thus the days were filled. At length the Sacramental Sabbath arrived. It was a sweet, beautiful morning. The people thronged the church. After the usual services the communicants gathered around the table, and, with an evidently profound feeling of interest in our Lord Jesus, partook of the bread and wine. There were two tables. At these about fifty communicants sealed their covenant with the Lord. On Monday the services came to a close; and we almost felt sorry. We could most cheerfully have tarried longer. We were indeed in the "heavenly places with Christ Jesus." Such continuous and importunate services prevail; through such earnest and persistent supplications, the Spirit causes waters to break out in the wilderness and streams in the desert. We could not help but compare these preparatory services for communion with the feeble efforts seen in our congregations in general, and attribute the great spiritual results on the one hand and the imperceptible effects so common on the other, to the difference. And if we could judge rightly, the indications on the countenances of our workers, in the morning often told the story that the intercession with God had been carried on into the late (or early) hours of the night, in solitary pleading for souls. Many incidents of interest might be mentioned, but the editor of the Christian Nation being on the ground, we leave these mostly for him to give. Two new members were added to the number of the communicants. Two persons, a husband and wife, signified their purpose to join the little company of believers. At this there were tears of joy, but how great the grief, when, under the stress of advice, and pleading, and threats, by companions, their courage failed and they declined to come! One little girl almost wept herself sick, because her father would not let her profess Christ. Tears were seen trickling down the cheeks of men and women, as they felt the persuasions of grace, and yet were afraid to venture for Christ. We believe that there is a great regenerating process now going on among this wonderful people attending at this mission which will ere long result in a large harvest of souls for the Lord Jesus Christ. The privilege of assisting at this communion has been appreciated as one of the great blessings of a lifetime. It is no small favor to be allowed to have the fellowship and help of such devoted servants of our Lord for a period of ten days and on the mount of holy communion. They all in their places, missionaries, teachers, and helpers, contributed their part in making these services what they were, through the grace of our Lord. We were all delighted with the cheerful presence of Elder Dougherty, of Sterling, Kan., who, with Mr. Pritchard, served in the session and at the tables. The earnest words and services of Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard will not soon be forgotten. Nor will any of us who were present soon forget the kindness of that entire band, so highly exalted in the ennobling relationship of workers together with God.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Scenes and Incidents of a Visit to the Indian Mission.

Harnet S. Pritchard.

On the evening of May 6, 1899, after the closing exercises of synod, we boarded the train at Mansfield, Ohio, that beautiful city set upon a hill, where every home seems to enjoy the luxuries of life, and along with several members of synod who were on their way to homes in the West, we arrived early in the morning in Chicago, where we parted, as our little party of four were bent in another direction from theirs.

After a day spent pleasantly in Chicago, we took a train over the Santa Fe route to Newton, where we again changed to the Rock Island road and spent the day traveling across Kansas, arriving near midnight at Oklahoma City. The trip through Kansas revealed to us a splendid panorama of changing scenery; hill and dale, woodland and field, all dressed in their most beautiful colors, the verdure and foliage of the brightest green, the corn and wheat of the richest yellow, the flowers of various colors rich in beauty and delightful in fragrance, for rain had descended and refreshed the earth, and all nature was dressed in her best and appeared possessed of health, joy and beauty. Kansas has had such a remarkable year of prosperity that the people are giving their gratitude vent in public demonstrations. Indeed, the vast fields of grain, with its waving tassels bowing a welcome to us for miles and miles, was a welcome sight, for it assured us that here was food enough to supply the wants of the whole population of the United States. Also the orchards and woods held out such urgent invitations to rest beneath the dense foliage, and to satisfy the weakened as well as the most ravenous appetites with luxurious, luscious fruit. The cattle, horses, sheep, swine, and barn yard fowls looked kindly at our train as we hurried along through their beautiful country and past their comfortable homes, giving promise of more bountiful times for the flesh eaters of the East, and this promise would have been fulfilled were it not, I am sorry to say, for the avaricious trusts that hold the golden grain, the luscious fruits and lowing cattle within their power, and impoverish the people at large that they may become rich through levying such exorbitant prices.

The many attractive scenes of home life caused the weary travelers to long for some of the sweets thereof, and even the heavens, with the atmosphere and planets, sued for recognition through their ever changing lights and shadows. As we neared Wichita we beheld one of the grandest of sunsets. Away over the prairies, as far as the eye could reach, the long grass waved before the wind, now revealing, now concealing some of the most beautiful and brightest of wild flowers. Here we observed for the first time the white covered prairie wagons, some of them moving slowly along one after another, while in places they were grouped and the drivers were camping out. On the edge, as it were, of the horizon the sun was fast sinking from sight, while its bright, sparkling rays formed a halo of glory above and around it, reaching out to a great distance, and the reflection caused the prairie below to appear to be in flames that leaped up and lapped the atmosphere around.

It was a most glorious sunset, that reminded one in a faint way of the ascension of the Son of God, the glory of whose divine presence and life cast a halo of glory all down the ages, reaching into the hearts of humanity and being reflected there so springs up in love and service for God and humanity that their lives seem