

would reply that no good work is ever wholly lost. Some of this people have already been blessed with the knowledge of salvation. War has already been prevented, and we think some permanent influence of our labors may be expected to remain, even under such a change as would exclude us from the field. The results of true missionary labor often survive changes in government. But whatever may be the result to the Indian, our own blessing will be sure. We are to act well in the present. We are to enter into the vineyard to-day and labor, though frost may come on the morrow and blight our prospects. We are to plant and to water, expecting a blessing to ourselves and to the objects of our concern in just that measure which God sees meet to bestow. *He giveth the increase.* Can we safely stand idle? Can we truthfully say that we have not been divinely called unto this service? Does it not seem that a door has been opened for us to do our part as a Church in bringing about a fulfilment of His forespoken declaration: "I will give thee the heathen for thy inheritance, and the uttermost part of the earth for thy possession;" and if we depart from the work shall we not be responsible to Him for all the darkness and heathen ignorance which it is in our power to prevent?

We ourselves are recipients of the benefits flowing from Christian labor. Our ancestors were once in the same state of heathen darkness, ignorance, and vice as are these Indians to-day. If Christians of a bygone age had not in the face of difficulty and danger, and in the exercise of a godly zeal, and a love that denied self in its earnestness to plant the standard of the cross amongst the heathen, gone to our forefathers and proclaimed "the acceptable year of the Lord," they and we, to this day, might have remained in heathenish practices and ignorance. It is no strange thing then that some even now feel called to this work of faith, and labor of love, and

patience of hope; and that others feel willing to support the work by their prayers, by their active sympathy, and by such other help as God enables them to give. The servant of Christ has only his *one* life wherein to serve his Lord on earth. In the morning he sows the seed, and in the evening he withholds not his hand. He regards not the clouds nor the wind. He knows that his Master's kingdom shall stand, though earthly kingdoms fall and administrations change. He realizes that "duty is his and events are God's;" and laboring continuously throughout his day, in the obedience of faith, he looks beyond for abiding rest in the joyous and unwearying service of Heaven.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of "The Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs," the 26th of Eighth month, 1871.

JOHN B. GARRETT,
Clerk.

unoccupied portions of this Territory, and to consummate the organization of a common government for all the tribes resident therein.

There is no influence more powerfully promotive of the civilization of the wild tribes than their proximity to and association (under the same government) with those who have already adopted the habits and customs of Christian people, and who are manifestly reaping the benefits of this change of condition. The determination thus to constitute the Indian Territory a true "Oklahoma" (the Home of the Red Man) is not only worthy of the fostering care and prosecution of a great government, but is full of interest and importance to the Indian, who is now hemmed in upon all sides, and must look upon this reserved section as his only resting-place in the years of a near future.

Interested parties are now making great efforts in the border States to manufacture a public sentiment in favor of opening the Indian Territory to settlement by white people, in total disregard of the rights of the Indian and of the obligations of the Government. The senseless clamor of "land for the landless," "homes for the poor," &c., is iterated and reiterated by individual and corporate land-grabbers, in the face of the fact that there are yet millions upon millions of acres in market at Government prices, in proximity to civilized communities. To listen to the demands of these men would not only involve our country in a violation of right and of justice, but would also be impolitic. The experience of the last two years has demonstrated that the present policy of the Government has been eminently successful in saving large sums to the Treasury, securing the peace of the border, and insuring safety of transit for passengers and products between the Atlantic and the Pacific States. Were all questions of justice to the Indian, and of obligation on the part of the Government, out of the way,

yet as a matter of pure expediency, the people of this country should demand such a course on the part of the Government as would secure such results as are above stated, however urgent may be the self-interested demands of a few speculators, who, to subserve their own dishonest purposes, would involve the entire country in crime, dishonor, bloodshed, and industrial and commercial loss. The testimony of Secretary Delano, who has unequalled facilities for obtaining accurate information on this point, is an emphatic indorsement of the President's policy as one "of truth, justice, humanity, and peace." He states that during the first year in which it was tried, the expenditure of the Government through the Department of the Interior, for Indians, was three millions and six hundred and thirty-four thousand dollars (\$3,634,000) less than during the one which immediately preceded it. In addition to this great reduction, it will be noticed that the expenses of the War Department underwent a decided diminution at the same time; and this he attributes in part to the non-occurrence of Indian wars. It is well known that for years before the adoption of an honest and pacific course by the Government, our western border was the scene of annual wars, more or less destructive of life amongst Indians, as well as our own soldiers and the frontier population. No such wars have to be recorded as a part of the history of the last two years. We have great reason to suppose that a like immunity will result from a continuance of the same course of fair dealing. It is important that the Government receive the cordial support of the people, and of the Legislatures of the several States, in its efforts at a reform so honorable to the country and so promotive of its welfare, in order that it may not be unfavorably affected by the solicitations of those who counsel an adverse policy with an energy and a persistence worthy of a better cause.