

Annals of Shawnee Methodist Mission and Indian Manual Labor School

Section 8, Pages 211 - 240

These annals are a compilation of events concerning the Shawnee Methodist Mission year by year. The information was culled from a variety of sources. Most entries include a citation to the source. Thomas Johnson established the mission in 1830 near Turner in present Wyandotte County, Kansas. He also founded the Indian Manual Labor School, which operated in conjunction with the mission. It was moved to the Johnson County area in 1839 and the school operated until 1862. The Santa Fe and Oregon trails passed near the Johnson County location so travelers frequently stopped at the mission. The site housed the executive offices of the first territorial governor and the first territorial legislature met there. In addition to the Methodist mission, the Baptist and Quaker churches also operated missions for the Shawnee. These annals are the complete manuscript from which a condensed version was published by the Kansas State Historical Society in 1939.

Creator: Caldwell, Martha B. (Martha Belle)

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amusement of hunting. Now I am not going to enter into any sober argument on the subject. I don't think my friend felt any qualms about it, as the wolf was a common enemy, and had, no doubt, had many a meal of nice fat pig, at the expence of the mission farm; and for myself I had long wished to examine a prairie wolf. We were not at the death, but we were on the spot time enough to see the object of our pursuit."

Rev. James O. Andrew, Miscellanies, 1855, 146, 153-156.

Oct. 10. Grand con vocation of Indian tribes held near Fort Leavenworth. Here the Emigrant tribes rekindle the Council Fire of the Ancient Confederacy of the Northwest. "At this council the position of the Wyandotts as keepers of the Council-fire of the Northwestern Confederacy was confirmed and renewed."

William Connelley, William Walker and the Provisional Government of Nebraska, p. 265.

"Indian M. L. School. Rev. W. Patton has had charge of this institution. There are in the society here 19 whites, 20 Indians, and 3 colored members. The average number of students in the school the past year, of both sexes, has been about eighty. There is also 1 Sabbath school, with 1 superintendent, 8 teachers, 100 scholars and 200 volumes in library." [Annual Report of the Board of Missions, Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Copy in vault, K. S. H. S. sent from Nashville.]

List of appointments to the Indian Missions of the Methodist church for 1848:

Kansas River district, L. B. Stateler, presiding elder:

Indian manual-labor school, Thos. Johnson, T. Hurlburt.

Shawnee, L. B. Stateler

Delaware, B. H. Russell

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Kickapoo, N. T. Shaler

Wyandot, J. T. Peery

Kansas, T. Johnson.

Western Academy, N. Scarritt.

Lutz, op. cit. pp. 228, 229.

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1849

Jan. 25, 1849

Sir: I have the honor to enclose for your consideration a letter this day rec^d from Agent Cummins in relation to church difficulties among the Shawnees; also a copy of a letter addressed by Bishop Morris to the Rev. M. Gurley[?] from Ohio who has been appointed by the Bishop to preach to the Wyandotts.

It is to be deeply regretted that this difficulty should be agitated among the Indians by two societies maintaining the same church doctrines and discipline; the only point of difference being that in which the Indians can have no interest immediate or remote.

Major Cummins has very forcefully alluded to difficulties that may occur in reference to the subject; and should they occur it will be difficult to foresee their effect upon the Indians.

My own opinion is that the agitation of the subject will be a serious affair to the Indians; it is already prejudicing their moral & religious character . . . If it is practicable the sooner it is checked the better.

Thomas Harvey, Supt. [Indian Affairs]

Hon. M. Medill

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Superintendency of Indian Affairs, v. 9,

Mar. 9. Jotham Meeker visits the Methodist mission and spends about three hours "critically examining the schools mode of managing the children &c. with a view to putting some of the Ottawa children there soon."

Meeker Journal, v. 2, p. 107.

March 26. "Write a letter Rev. Th. Johnson relative to sending to his school 13 of the Ottawa children."

Ibid. p. 109.

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March 27. Meeker writes: "I send off to the Shawnee Meth. Mission school my boys Robert Merrill and Ephraim Robins, Shawboneda sends two, and Washkee one, all for three years."

Ibid.

May 19. "We remained encamped to-day, in order to enable Mr. Boone, a grandson of Daniel Boone, and his family and party, who wish to join us, to come up. Messrs. Kirkendall, Jacob, and Greenbury, reached camp this morning about seven o'clock, relieving me some uneasiness on their account. They had found a ford, near the mission, about twelve miles up Kansas; but when they returned to the ferry, finding that our train had all passed over, and it being late, they remained during the night with the party that separated from us this morning. The mission which they visited, and at which they were well received and entertained, is an establishment for the education and christianization of the Indians, supported in part by the United States government, and under the patronage and superintendence of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States. There is a blacksmith's shop at the mission, and an extensive farm under cultivation.

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A new census of our party was taken this morning, and it was found to consist of 98 fighting-men, 50 women, 46 wagons, and 350 cattle. Two divisions were made of the wagons for convenience in marching. We were joined to-day by nine wagons from Illinois, belonging to Mr. Reed and the Messrs. Donner, highly respectable and intelligent gentlemen, with interesting families. They were received into the company by a unanimous vote."

Edwin Bryant, Rocky Mountain Adventures, pp. 45, 46.

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Sep. 8. Wm. Walker writes: "Went to the camp ground and heard a sermon from Rev. Thomas Johnson, decidedly the best Indian preacher I ever heard."

Wm. E. Connelley, William Walker and the Provisional Government of Nebraska Territory, p. 297.

Oct. 12. Report of Thomas Johnson to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

"Dear Sir: As the agent recently appointed for this agency has not yet arrived, I have taken the liberty of forwarding to you directly a copy of our annual report, in which you will perceive, as well as from our quarterly reports, that our school is still moving on with reasonable success, notwithstanding the embarrassments from having the cholera in the community, and from many other causes that we have had to contend with. I think there has been an increasing desire for education, especially among the Shawnees, manifested during the past year.

The Shawnees, and portions of other tribes, are becoming a working people, and are making considerable progress in the arts of civilized life. But two things operate very much against them; first, the want of suitable laws among themselves, for the protection of their persons and property; secondly, their disposition to move about from place to place. Not unfrequently, after having worked hard, and built a comfortable house, and made a convenient little farm, they immediately take a notion that some new place will suit them better, and move off right away to commence anew; and thus, in some instances, their large tracts of land prove a disadvantage to them.

"For many years my mind has been directed to the probable destiny of these remnants of tribes west of Missouri; and I am fully satisfied that they never can be extensively improved as separate nations, and that the time will come when it will be best for our Government to throw around

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this country some form of government, and buy up the surplus lands belonging to these little tribes; leaving a reservation in each tribe for those who are not willing to live among civilized people, and let the enterprising part of each nation hold property in their names, and live among the whites, and take their chance with them; and at a suitable time, when they were found qualified for it, let them have citizenship with the whites.

"I believe that more of the Indians, in this part of the country, would be brought to enjoy the benefits of civilization on this than any other plan ever presented to my mind. I have conversed with a number of the more intelligent in the different tribes; and I have no doubt but some such arrangements could be made soon, if the Government should think proper to commence it.

"Our crops this year of hay and oats were tolerable good, and also of the different kinds of vegetables; but our corn is far short of an average one, in consequence of the almost constant rain through the entire season. But I think, with proper economy, we shall be able to winter our stock, as we have considerably reduced our number of cattle and hogs.

"I have not time to add more at present, as I am much pressed with business.

"I have the honor to be, yours, with due respect,

Thos. Johnson

Hon. O. Brown,

Supt. F. L. Ind. M. L. School.
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

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Number of scholars of different sexes and tribes.

Males	No.	Females	No.	Total
Delawares	15	Delawares	17	32
Shawnees	25	Shawnees	14	39
Pottawatomies	12	Pottawatomies	1	13
Ottawas	7	Ottawas	4	11
Wyandotts	9	Wyandotts	3	12
Omahas	1	Omahas	1	2
Peorias	3	Peorias	1	4
Cherokees	2	Cherokees	0	2
Kanzas	<u>1</u>	Kanzas	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	75		41	116

Five apprentices not included in the above 5
121

Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1849, 1850,
p. 149, 150.

Oct. 19. Rev. Meeker writes: "Purchase lumber of the Meth. Mission
Steam mills for our mill wheels etc."

Meeker Journal, v. 2. p. 136.

Oct. 24. "Br. Jones takes to the Methodist Shawnee mission his
girls and Pooler's boys, and to the Shawnee Bap. mission Pahtee's children."

Ibid.

1849 Rev. John Thompson Peery is appointed to the Indian Manual
Labor School. "He was associated in the work with Rev. Thos. Johnson.
His special work in this school was teaching, but he preached on the
Sabbath and held social meetings and rendered other services."

Fr. St. Louis Christian Advocate, Nov. 22, 1905.

Indian Mission Clippings, v. 1, p. 48, K. S. H. S.

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Appointments for 1849

Kansas River district, L. B. Stateler, presiding elder:

Indian manual-labor school, Thos. Johnson, Superintendent, J. T. Peery

Shawnee, L. B. Stateler

Delaware, J. A. Cummings

Wyandot, B. H. Russell

Kickapoo, H. T. Shaler

Kansas, T. Johnson

Pottawatomie, T. Hurlburt

Western Academy, N. Scarritt.

Lutz, op. cit. p. 229.

1849

1848 - Received from sundry sources as follows: (from treasurer's account) Kansas River District - Indian manual labor school 86 00, Shawnee 31 05,

Delaware 20 00 Dr. \$137 00.

1848

By this amount paid Rev. L. B. Stateler \$248 60.

Annual Report of Board of Missions, Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Copy in MSS. Dept., K. S. M. S. from records at Nashville, Tenn.



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[1850]

May 6. Letter of Miss Archbold to Julia Anne McBride, Paris, Mo.

Westport, Missouri, May 6th, 1850

Indian Manual Laboring School.

Miss Julia Anne McBride,

c/o Judge E. W. McBride,

Paris, Monroe County, Mo.

My Dear Mrs. McBride: You requested me to write from this point, which requisition should have been complied with, but that my health and many pressing engagements have hitherto prevented me. I caught cold coming over the bleak prairies that lie between Glasgow to this place and my cough and pain in my side have been severe. I passed through a course of blue pills and was bled. I am now much better though I but seldom sit up a whole day. I got here the first day of April and commenced school the third. I am much pleased with the school. The girls are perfectly quite and easily managed. They were never known to sauce a teacher and are quite affectionate and kind, harmless and playful. The male school is taught by two young gentlemen, one a Methodist preacher. I never had better accommodations--my washing is done in the best of style, by a black girl hired on purpose to wash for the teachers and preachers of the institution.

I live in a stately brick house that has thirteen rooms, all very conveniently arranged. I have a very neat room with window blinds and nicely carpeted floor and as nice a stand and as good a bed as I ever wish to have. The presiding elder and his wife live in one end of this house and the lady keeps the boarding house.

We have some thirty odd Indian girls when we have school but it is vacation now. My school will commence again week after next. I shall be pleased as I like to teach them.



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Just across the road is another very large brick house with thirteen spacious rooms. In this Preacher Johnson and family reside. He is the superintendent and has a most interesting wife and some beautiful children. There our merchant and his family reside, they keep the male boarding house here and the store is handy. In the same lot stands another large brick building--in this the preacher in charge Rev. Dines and family live in one end, in the other Elder Hurlburt and his noble wife and most amiable sister live. Brother and Sister Adams, another very amiable pair, live there too, so you see we have the best and most pleasing society imaginable. This house contains thirteen rooms also. One of these rooms is appropriated to divine Worship. It has a pulpit and has a very spacious room in which the male school is taught. We have fine trees growing in our lot and yard. We have fine gardens and flowers of all descriptions, and one of the largest and most beautiful farms I ever saw with several springs and gurgling rills. Oh, I wish, my dear friend you could visit us; you would be amply paid for the visit, I assure you. We could give you plenty of strawberries and cream. We have seventy cows belonging to the Mission. A Steam mill too where we get as beautiful flour as I ever saw so you see I am still in the land of plenty--yes, to profusion. Here I am willing to labor, to spend my days if I can but do any real or lasting good. My life will soon be past as a dream or tale that is told. I fain would improve the moments as time flies. Eternity will soon open upon my astonished vision and Oh, that I may be prepared.

Could you see the difference it makes in these children of nature to have the benefit of Christian Education I think you would with me be ready to bless the first Missionaries that erected the first rude hut, and then the lofty Temple, in these plains to instruct the poor, debased Savage. For many miles around you may see neat farms and good dwellings: these

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occupied by the red men but you would still be better pleased, dear friend, to see them wearing good apparel and hear them pray, and see them in the Stand proclaiming the Gospel of Peace and then, could you but call around, the Wild Savage just as I have seen scores of them in their Own Costume which consists of a blanket thrown around the perfectly naked body, save a cloth much below the shoulders and their leggins with their shoes of skins and their ornaments, of which they are extremely fond; indeed, our fashionable young Ladies would be quite in the shade as it respects necklaces and shells--feathers and beads--warm furs, and many other articles, too tedious to mention. A whole nation in this wild state came and camped here at the mill. The poor women carried the babies, while their lordly husbands rode on horses, and made them carry all the bags of flour, and load the ponies, while their lords of earth walked near with erect forms and highly painted cheeks. I wish your dear girls could have seen them. We made up a party and went down to their camp. The women were cooking supper. They had cakes made up and laid on the ground or what was worse, on their old polluted blankets. The men and boys were laying round painted to the life with red paint over their faces--eyes and hair then, striped with yellow paint most fancifully. Oh, I think Bina (now Mrs. Woods) would have wanted one of their babies. One little almost naked thing got hold of my hand and played so fondly that I felt like taking it from its heathen Mother and educating it.

My dear niece returned from this place after staying near three weeks. She was much pleased and thinks of returning in the Fall. She was disappointed that we could not visit you but we had to give it up. I hope to visit you sometime, however.

I would like Judge McBride to read some of the speeches my good Democratic Brother made at the State Senate this winter. I have two papers.

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My Brother, the preacher, is nearly well.

My love to your dear children I would so love to teach them again
but could not say.

Your sincere friend,

A. Archbold

Missouri Valley Historical Society, *Annals of Kansas City*, v. 1, p.
also a copy, slightly different, in MSS. Dept., K.S. H. S.

May 9. Meeker writes: "Travel in my buggy to the Shawnee Meth.
Mission. Meet a great many California emigrants."

Meeker Journal, v. 2, p. 159.

May. The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South
meets in St. Louis. This conference changed the boundaries of the Indian
Mission conference by attaching the Kansas District to the St. Louis
Conference. This district was called the Indian Mission District.

M'Anally, *Life and Times of William Patton*, p. 253, 254.

Parrish, *The Rise of Methodism in Kansas*, p. 43.

July 9. "We visited the Shawnee Missions. There were three within
about six miles. The first is Methodist and is sustained by the Government.
They have three large brick houses--one for the boarding-house, one for
the school, and the other is used for a high-school for whites from the
States. This is under the superintendence of Thomas Johnson. He is a
Methodist and a slaveholder.

"One of the chiefs of the Shawnees rents part of the farm, which
consists of 700 acres, and carries on farming on a pretty large scale.
Has a large fine house and large stock of cattle and horses, and has his
work mostly done by slaves.

"There are sometimes as many as 120 children in this school. Many
of the young men learn trades, and the women are taught, besides the common

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branches of education, housework and needlework.

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"The influence of the missionaries has been very great. A majority of this tribe are farmers, and have considerable tracts of land under good fence and culture, and are disposed to be quiet and industrious."

John O. Wattles to Horace Greeley, New York Tribune, July 9, 1850.

Kansas River District -- L. B. Stateler, P. E.

Fort Leavenworth Indian M. L. School. -- Rev. Thos. Johnson in charge. Students 120. One Sabbath School, 80 scholars; 200 volumes in Library. Members in Society -- Indians 5, Whites 20, Colored 3. Missionary collection \$33. State of religion tolerably good. In the appointments to this work, Rev. Thomas Hurlburt was connected with Brother Johnson, but only remained a part of the year.

Annual Report of Missions, Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Copy in MSS. Dept., K. S. H. S. Copied from records at

Nashville, Tenn.



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1851.

Jan. 29.

"Fort Leavenworth, I. M. L. School, Jan. 29, 1851.

Rev. E. W. Schon.

Dear Brother: Having learned that the secretary of the St. Louis Conference Missionary Society failed to furnish you with the last annual report, as required by the discipline, I will forward to you all the statistical and other important information which I can command at this time, relative to the missions embraced in the bounds of the Lexington district, St. Louis Conference. Though in many particulars I fear the information will be but very meagre, yet as I have no time now to seek for farther information among the missionaries, I hope you will accept this, not only as supplying to some extent the lack of the report referred to above, but also as my second quarterly report from these missions. All the missions within the bounds of this district, prior to the General Conference in May, 1850, belonged to the Indian Mission Conference, and at that time were added to the St. Louis Conference; and at the last session of the St. Louis Conference, they were attached to the Lexington District. They are five in number, each of which I will notice in order:--

1. Fort Leavenworth Indian Manual Labor School. -- This institution is under the superintendence of Rev. Thos. Johnson, in whose prudent and judicious management of its interests the Church has every reason to be satisfied. There are about eighty children in school this winter, though considerably more than this number have obtained their outfit of winter clothing here. The attendance during the past year, and up to this time, has been more regular than it formerly had been. As a consequence, we think the children have improved much more than they have done before, in the same length of time. Indeed, if we consider that they have to acquire the language in which they learn their lessons, it is a matter



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of wonder that they advance as rapidly in their studies as they do. And the facility with which they acquire the use of the English language, affords a striking evidence of the practicability of giving to the rising generation of the Indians a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, through the medium of the English language. These children are taught spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, and geography. A part of each day, except Sabbath, is devoted to some kind of useful manual labor. They are required to be present at family worship twice a day, and to attend public worship at the regular hours on Sabbath. We have at this place a very interesting Sabbath school, of more than one hundred scholars. Some of the little Indian girls, in the course of a week, besides their other studies and duties commit from twenty to sixty verses in the New Testament, and recite them in Sabbath school. It is truly delightful to meet in this Sabbath school, and hear all these little Indians unite with their teachers in singing the praises of God. Indians mostly sing well. We think this school gives promise of much usefulness."

(Report from other missions follow - letter signed by J. T. Peery.)

Kansas District - J.T. Peery, P. E.
Fort Leavenworth M.L. School, T. Johnson.

Ind.	W.	Col.	Chs.	S. S.	Schs.	P.
3	15	3	1	1	100	89

Copied from the Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Copy in MSS. Dept., K. S. H. S.

Office Supnt Indian Affairs

St. Louis May 26, 1851

Sir: During my late trip to the Indian Country, in obedience to your instructions, I visited the Shawnee Mission for the purpose of examining, and reporting the condition of that institution.

On the day of my examination (1st May) I found the school to consist

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of 21 Indian boys, and 4 white boys. In the female Department, I found 25 girls 3 of whom were white--making the whole number of scholars present on that occasion, fifty of both sexes and colors. There was a separate room occupied exclusively by white boys and girls--28 in number; these latter were the children of frontier inhabitants whose education was paid for by their parents or friends.

I found upon a brief examination that a few of the Indian scholars of both sexes had made some progress in spelling and reading, and two of the boys understand the rudiments of arithmetic-- Owing to the absence of Mr. Johnson, the Superintendent, and also that of the principal teacher, I was unable to procure such statistical, and other information as I desired and needed in order to enable me to make out a satisfactory, or useful report. I regretted to learn however, that but few of the boys ever acquired much knowledge of agriculture or the Mechanic arts. This I learn (from those who have opportunities of knowing) arises partly from the indisposition of the boys to engage in manual labor, and to some extent to a want of zeal on the part of those whose business it is to instruct them. The indisposition of the boys to labor will be readily understood, when you reflect, that whenever they arrive at an age and size where their labor and skill would be profitable--they and their parents are not willing for them to labor for a bare and poor subsistence, without any promise or prospects of a pecuniary reward. It will also be readily understood that nothing but great zeal in the cause would induce the teachers to trouble themselves with the tuition of boys, that will be sure to leave them as soon as their labor becomes valuable.

Could the proceeds or profits of the farm (which is one of the finest and most productive in the Western country) be so arranged as to inure to the benefit of the Indians themselves, the result would be widely different.

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But unfortunately this is not the case; the profits (which are very great) all go to enrich those who are so fortunate as to have the management of the institution, and I am informed by gentlemen who have best opportunities of knowing, that the Superintendents of this institution never fail to make fortunes within the course of 4 or 5 years; at which time they retire to make room for some poorer brother. These remarks are not intended as a reproach to the gentlemen who have heretofore had charge of the establishment, but merely to show that the Indians ought to derive a greater amount of good from the expenditure of their own money.

The tribe having most cause of complaint I think are the Delawares. At the time of my visit, there was only one Delaware scholar at the mission, and she a small half breed. The teachers who were present very frankly confessed that they had no hopes of ever being able to induce the Delawares to send their children to the school of the Shawnee Mission; this they attributed to the jealous interference of rival missionaries-- of the truth of this I had no means of judging.

The mill built by the Society as a part of their agreement with the Delawares, I am sorry to say, is of no use to the Indians, or to any one else, and never will be.

In conclusion, I will give it as my opinion, that the money annually paid to missionary societies for the purpose of educating the Indians, could be better used for that purpose by the resident Agents of the Government; particularly as the societies have within the last few years introduced politics in its most baneful form into the Indian country-- I mean the political question growing out of the subject of negro slavery. This hateful question has already scattered religious and civil discord and contentions among several of the border tribes, and the evil is rapidly increasing, fostered and cherished as it is by some of the mis-

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guided missionaries.

Respectfully

(Signed) D. D. Mitchell

Hon. L. Lea

Supt Ind Afr.

Com. Ind. Affairs.

Superintendency of Indian Agency, St. Louis, v. 9, p. 325.

Aug. 25. "The Delawares have disposed of their education fund for several years yet to come; it being vested in the Shawnee mission M. L. school. They have, for some cause not correctly known to me, refused to send their children to the Shawnee mission school, which their fund sustains, for the space of a year. I feel in great hope that, with my aid, the Shawnee mission superintendent will be able to get back to his school some twenty or more of the Delaware children.

"The Delaware mill, which was built by the Methodist missionary board as a boon for their education fund for a term of years, is now a complete wreck. I have visited it, and recommended the chiefs to retain \$ 3000 out of the money they received from the Wyandottes, which they did, for the purpose of rebuilding the mill: but whether they will expend it for that purpose is, I am fearful, uncertain. The tribe is anxious it should be rebuilt, as there is not a mill in the Indian country near, but the chiefs seem to feel indifferent."

Thomas Mosely Jr., Indian Agent for the Kansas Agency, Reports of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1851, 1852, p. 80.

Summer. Nathan Scarritt resigns his place in the school to devote himself exclusively to preaching to the Indians.

Missouri Valley Hist. Soc., v. 1, p. 437.

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Sep. 12. Rev. Meeker writes: "Sent to the Meth. Sh. School my boys Robt. and Ephraim, together with those who have been there to school the last year, and seven new ones, in all 20."

Meeker's Journal, v. 2, p. 213.

Sep. 30. Statement showing the condition of Fort Leavenworth Indian manual labor school for the current year ending September 30, 1881.

Male Department.

Teachers - A. Coneatzer, T. Huffaker, W. Luke, S. Huffaker.

Number of male scholars 53

Female Department.

Teachers - Mrs. M. J. Feery and A. E. Chick.

Number of female scholars 47

Total number in both departments 100.

Subjects taught - "Latin, Eng'h grammar, geogra'y, arithmetic, philoso'y, penman'p, declamation," needlework.

Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1881, pp. 87, 88.

[The names of the pupils together with their age, tribe, when entered, and studies, are also given in this report, [See next page.]^{ind.}]

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1851

Statement No 1, showing the condition of Fort Leavenworth Indian manual labor school for the current year ending September 30, 1851.

MALE DEPARTMENT.

Teachers--A. Coneatzer, T. Huffaker, W. Luke, S. Huffaker.

Names	Age	Tribe	Entered	Studies.
Levi Flint	17	Shawnee	November, 1842	Latin, Eng'h Grammer, geogra'y, arithmetic, philoso'y, penman'p, declamation, &c.
Robert Armstrong	14	Wyandott	September, 1850	
Henry Garrett	16	do.	do.	
Legarus Flint	15	Shawnee	August, 1842	Grammar, arithmetic, geography, reading, writing, spelling, declamation, &c.
Mebzy Dougherty	15	do.	November, 1848.	
John Paschal	16	Peoria	January, 1841.	
John Mann	14	Pottawatomie	do.	
Thaxter Reed	13	Ottawa	March, 1849.	
Alpheus Herr	15	do.	September, 1849.	
William Fish	14	Shawnee	May, 1849.	
John Anderson	15	Pottawatomie	September, 1848.	
Robert W. Robetalle	11	Wyandott	November, 1849.	
Jacob Flint	10	Shawnee	July, 1848.	
Stephen Bluejacket	13	do.	June, 1847.	
Moses Pooler	12	Ottawa	March, 1849.	
Francis Pooler	11	do.	do.	Arithmetic, reading, spelling, writing, and declamation.
Solomon Peck	12	do.	do.	
Robert Merrill	12	do.	do.	
Epraim Robbins	11	do.	do.	
James Hicks	15	Wyandotte	April, 1851.	
William Barnet	15	Shawnee	do.	
Jacob Whitecrow	15	Wyandotte	March, 1851.	
Peter Anderson	12	Pottawatomie	October, 1848.	



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Peter Mann	13	do.	January, 1848.)
Peter Sharlow	13	Wyandotte	March, 1851.)
Robert Bluejacket	12	Shawnee	September, 1849.))
Thomas Bluejacket	10	do.	June, 1847.)
Cassius Barnet	14	do.	March, 1849.)
Samuel Flint	12	do.	May, 1851.)
Lewis Hays	17	do.	July, 1850.)
William Flint	15	do.	April, 1851.)
George Sharlow	15	Wyandotte	do.)
Anson Carryhoo	15	do.	do.)
Thomas Huffaker	10	do.	do.)
Eldridge Brown	7	do.	do.)
John Solomon 1st.	17	do.	do.)
George Big River	12	do.	October, 1850.)
Henry Lagotrie	11	Pottawatomie	April, 1850.)
John Solomon, 2nd.	6	Wyandotte	do.)
Francis Whitdeer	9	Shawnee	June, 1850.)
James Baltrice	13	do.	September, 1848.))
William Deskin	8	Do.	June, 1850.)
Robert Serget	16	do.	do.)
Nathan Searritt	12	do.	March, 1849.)
Edward Searritt	10	do.	do.)
John Charles	16	Wyandotte	October, 1850.)
John Coon	16	do.	do.)
Charles Barnet	9	Shawnee	February, 1850.)
Joe Richardson	7	Ottawa	October, 1850.)
George Williams	16	Wyandotte	do.)
Isaac Frost	20	do.	January, 1851.)
Albert Solomon	11	do.	March, 1851.)
George Luke	12	Delaware	October, 1850.)

From the alphabet
to reading, spelling,
and writing.

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FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

Teachers--Mrs. M. J. Peery and A. E. Chick.

Names	Age	Tribe	Entered	Studies.
Stella A. Harvey	12	Omaha	September, 1846.)	Grammar, arithmetic, geography, reading, writing, and needle- work.
Sally Bluejacket, 1st.	15	Shawnee	February, 1849.)	
Mary A. Anderson	11	Pottawatomie	October, 1848.)	
Elizabeth Johnson	15	Shawnee	May, 1847.)	
Emily Bluejacket	12	do.	June, 1844.)	
Sophia Green	11	Ottawa	October, 1847.)	
Susan Bluejacket	10	Shawnee	March, 1849.)	
Hannah Wells	13	do.	December, 1847.)	
Rosalie Robetaille	10	Wyandotte	January, 1851.)	
Margaret Peery	13	Delaware	August, 1844.)	
Sarah Driver	15	Wyandotte	February, 1851.)	Arithmetic, geography, reading, writing, and needlework.
Sally Bluejacket 2d.	8	Shawnee	March, 1849.)	
Caty P. Scarritt	8	do.	October, 1848.)	
Catherine Donaldson	10	do.	do.)	
Rebecca Donaldson	7	do.	do.)	
Nancy Green	11	Ottawa	October, 1849.)	
Susan Wolfe	11	do.	April, 1849.)	
Elizabeth Robbins	10	do.	do.)	
Louisa Shigget	15	Delaware	July, 1850.)	
Sarah Sarahas	13	Wyandotte	September, 1850.)	
Elizabeth Robetaille	7	do.	do.)	
Mary A. Wolfe	16	Ottawa	April, 1851.)	
Ellen Miller	7	Ottawa	July, 1850.)	
Eleanor Richardson	6	do.	do.)	
Sarah Armstrong	12	Wyandotte	do.)	
Eliza Armstrong	10	do.	do.)	

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Mary Armstrong	8	do.	do.)
Mary Solomon	8	do.	September, 1850.)
Susan Buck	10	do.	February, 1851)
Frances Williams	14	do.	September, 1850.)
Sarah Sharlow	6	do.	March, 1851.)
Philomene Lagottrie	9	Mohawk	do.)
Rosalie Lagottrie	6	do.	do.)
Susan Driver	14	Wyandotte	April, 1851.)
Ella Dougherty	8	Shawnee	October, 1849.)
Mary Hill	9	Wyandotte	October, 1850.)
Sarah Hill	11	do.	do.)
Emma Williams	12	do.	do.)
Mary Williams	16	do.	do.)
Sally Bluejacket, 3d	6	Shawnee	September, 1850.)
Mary L. Searritt	6	do.	May, 1849.)
Anna Searritt	4	do.	September, 1850.)
Nancy Barnett	6	do.	May, 1849.)
Mary J. Owens	10	do.	September, 1850.)
Caty Whitdeer	7	do.	July, 1850.)
Mary E. Ward	7	Peoria	September, 1849.)
Susan Miller	13	Ottawa	April, 1849.)

From the alphabet,
to reading, spell-
ing and needle-
work.

Total number in the female department 47

Total number in the male department 53

Total number in both departments 100

Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1851-1852, pp. 87, 88.

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1852.

May 31. Meeker writes: "Ride to the Meth. Mission and to Westport . . . People are sick and dying at Westport and Kansas with Cholera."

Meeker Journal, v. 2, p. 249.

June 24. "Go with my wagon to Meth. Mission. Attend their annual school examination."

Ibid. p. 252.

June 25. Rev. Meeker writes: "Start in my wagon from the Meth. Mis. with ten Ottawa children for Ottawa. The roads very bad."

Ibid.

August 26. Rev. Thomas Johnson's report to Thomas Moseley, Jr. Indian Agent.

Sir: In pursuance of your instructions, I respectfully submit the following as my annual report of the Indians under my charge.

The past year, taking in view the interests of the institution in general, cannot but be regarded as one of more than ordinary prosperity. As to the health of the school, we have a good report to render. Of the one hundred and six scholars who have been in attendance, besides laborers, &c., employed in the service of the institution, not one death, nor even a case of serious illness, has occurred. This merciful dispensation, considering the prevalence and fatality of the cholera and other diseases on every side of us in close proximity, is truly remarkable, and for which we desire to render grateful acknowledgements to the Great Author of all Good.

"For the more particular statistics of the school I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying document No. 1, which contains, in detail, all the items of information required by the department. On the examination of that document, you will find that during the past year the Delawares have

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again sent their children to the school, and I hope will continue to do so.

"Our crop this season may be pronounced a good one, especially of hay, corn, and oats. The same may be said of the crops of the tribes adjacent, viz: Shawnees, Wyandots, and Delawares.

In riding by their plantations and observing their farm-houses, many of which are very neat and comfortable, and also their fields, laden with rich products, and promising an abundant supply of all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of life, one can hardly be brought to believe but that they were the results of a higher degree of skill and industry than is generally attributed to the red man of the forest. This state of improvement, it is true, is not equally observable in all parts of those tribes. There are portions of each that still cling more or less to their heathenish manners and modes of life; most of these are intemperate and abandoned, and have but little respectability in their nation, and, indeed, their regeneration is quite hopeless. But the principal classes, those who compose the strength and body of each of their nations, and who wield the chief influence in their national councils, are those who have attained the state of improvement we have mentioned above. They are industrious, moral, and intelligent, and, to my mind, there seems to be nothing in the way of their taking a stand on equal ground with the whites in every department of competition, except it is in the shelter of a government, which, in point of social and political privileges, would afford the same precious boon to them as that enjoyed by our own citizens; and, until they are raised to an equality with the whites in this regard, it is folly to suppose that they can ever hold a fair competition with them.

"The ability to hold real estate, the safeguard of competent laws for the protection of property, and an eligibility for rising to public office and endowment, seem to be necessary stimulants among any people to draw out their undeveloped energies, and second their elevation to an

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enlightened and prosperous state. Much more, then, are such institutions necessary among those who were lately untutored savages, and who have just broken off them the fetters of heathenism, and struggle into a state of civilization.

"I throw out these suggestions, hoping that they may not seem officious, but merely for the consideration of those to whom such matters more properly belong.

"The moral and religious condition of these tribes is still thought to be slowly on the advance for the better. Besides many new converts to the profession of christianity, the older professors are beginning to understand more perfectly the deeper principle of the christian system, and to settle down in the practice of a more uniform and consistent piety. The principal obstacle we find in the success of our missionary effort among a large portion of these tribes is their intemperance in the use of ardent spirits. Abandoned wretches among the white men have always been found sufficiently artful and corrupt to elude the laws, and deal out doses of physical and moral death to the unfortunate victims of their avarice.

"I am aware that the benevolent designs of the government in this regard have been manifested by the repeated enactments of very stringent laws. But these, to a great degree, have proved insufficient. If some step could still be taken to arrest this evil, it would be an achievement in behalf of the poor Indian, than which, perhaps, no other benefaction, within the power of the government, would have a more favorable bearing in the present condition and future prospects of the Indian race.

Respectfully submitted:

THOMAS JOHNSON,

Superintendent.

Thomas Moseley, Jr.,

Indian Agent.

Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1851, 1852,
p. 371-373.

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Sep. 1. "The Shawnee Methodist manual labor school, under the superintendency of Rev. Thomas Johnson, is one on a large scale, compared with any other in the tribe; the number of children attending varying from 80 to 106 in the year. I attended, in June last, the annual examination of this school, and the result of the examination was truly highly satisfactory to all. The children acquitted themselves in a manner that showed they had been taught and managed by competent hands, and had improved well their time at school. The higher class were learning geography, English grammar, arithmetic, &c. the other classes were in the elementary branches--writing, vocal music &c. The teacher of this school, in the male department, seemed to be well qualified for his station, and I would be doing injustice to the ladies engaged as teachers in the female department, not to say they were every way qualified for their vocations, and well deserve the approbation of all, for the motherly care manifested for the children, not only in school, but in their care and watchfulness over them at all times, whilst at the mission."

Thomas Moseley, Indian Agent for the Kansas agency, to Col. D. D. Mitchell, Supt. of Indian Affairs.

Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1851, 1852, p. 368.

Oct. 12. Move to establish Territorial government in the Nebraska Territory. An election for delegate to Congress is held in the Council house of the Wyandott Nation, Abelard Guthrie received the entire vote polled by the Wyandotts.

Wm. E. Connelley, William Walker and the Provisional Government of Nebraska Territory. p. 26.

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Oct. 17. "For detailed information in regard to the condition of border tribes, I must as usual refer you to the reports of the several agents; teachers, &c., at the same time, I feel it my duty to state, that these reports with few exceptions, are colored in lights entirely too flattering. So far as my personal observation enables me to judge, little or no good has resulted from the humane efforts of the Government, and that of pious individuals to hasten the civilization of the Indians.

D. D. Mitchell to Luke Lea.

Superintendency of Indian Affairs, v. 9, p. 413.

The Fort Leavenworth Manual Labor School, and the Kansas, under the superintendence of the Rev. Thomas Johnson, are enjoying great prosperity.

Kansas District -- J. T. Peery, P. E.

Fort Leavenworth M. L. School, T. Johnson

Ind. W. Col. S. S. Chil. P.

3	15	3	1	100	89
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Annual Report of Missions, Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Copied from records at Nashville, Tenn. Copy in MSS. Dept.,

K. S. H. S.

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1853.

Feb. 11. Thomas Johnson to J. Meeker:

"Bro. Meeker:

I forgot to tell you when I saw you about the time of our examination. It will be on the last Friday in this month which I believe is two weeks from this day. We will have an examination but no vacation. We shall be pleased to have you with us if convenient.

The children are all well at present, no further news.

Yours Afft'ly,

Thos. Johnson."

Meeker Correspondence, K. S. H. S., MSS. Dept.

April 12. (The following is taken from a report from J. T. Perry, P. E. of Kansas District)

Fort Leavenworth, Ind., W. S. School,

Apr. 12, 1853

"Our missions among the Shawnees, Delawares, and Wyandott Indians, all things considered, are doing as well as at any former period for several years past. During the past winter, the Shawnees suffered a great deal from sickness; a great many of them died.

The case of one poor young woman we cannot forbear to mention. She had been a scholar in the F. L. I. M. Labor School for several years, but had returned to her people--the Delawares--and some months before her death was married to a young man of her own tribe. Her sickness was very severe, but of short duration. She endured it with true Christian fortitude, expressed her full confidence in the merits of Christ her Savior, and just before she departed, she asked her husband to open a small bundle and take out a little money, which she had carefully put away, and requested him to give it to the support of missions as her last earthly token of gratitude to God for spiritual the blessings which, under God,

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she owed to missionary effort. With even one such case before us, how shall we slacken our missionary efforts?

The Fort Leavenworth Indian Manual Labor School is still in a very prosperous condition; perhaps it never was more so. I consider that it is doing great good among the tribes for whose benefit it was built up. The many deaths among the Shawnees last winter has made it necessary to take in a great many orphan children. The school, during the last winter, numbered about 100 scholars."

Kansas District - J. T. Peery, P. E.

Fort Leavenworth, M. L. School, T. Johnson.

Ind.	W.	Col.	Ch.	S.S.	Chil.	P.
3	15	3	1	1	100	100

Annual Report of Board of Missions, Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Copy in vault of K. S. H. S. copied from original in Nashville, Tenn.

June 16-23. Report of Lieut. Beckworth:

"Our encampment was some five miles from Westport and the Western line of the State of Missouri, selected by Mr. Kern in a fine grove near a spring, and surrounded by fine grass and an open prairie, and in the midst of the various Shawnee missions, which appeared well . . . The purchase of mules and horses and employing men suitable for the expedition occupied several days at this camp, and the breaking in of the teams and teamsters as many more, during which our camp was only moved to secure grass when the animals had fed it down near us . . . The 21st of June was spent, as the previous two or three days had been, in breaking in wild mules; no others could be obtained on short notice, so large had been the demand by emigrants going west of the mountains. Nor were we more fortunate in