

EXPEDITION TO THE SACS AND FOXES.¹

STOCKBRIDGE, Mar. 25th, 1835.

To Rev. David Greene, Missionary Rooms, Boston, Mass.

DEAR SIR—I feel it a duty to make some apology for so long a delay in communicating to the Board² the result of my tour last summer with the Stockbridge Indians. But my peculiar situation, building, removing to the New Settlement, visiting the sick, together with the duties connected with my calling &c. must be my apology.

Your last brought to me the unwelcome information that you had not heard from me since I left my station directly, and now it will be necessary to recapitulate much of what until yours came to hand I had supposed the Board had received last summer.

Your last before the delegation left last June informed me that it was the wish of the Board that we should leave sooner than it was contemplated at first, but it was some two months after it was written before I received it. It was then time that we should have been on our way in order to have met Dr. W.³ seasonably, but the Indians were

¹The original letter embodying this Report of Mr. Marsh is still preserved in the record room of the American Board in Boston. The "hieroglyphical figure by which the Sacs &c are in the habit of representing human life" has escaped from the Report and cannot now be found.—W. W. WIGHT.

²The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions is the oldest national missionary society in the United States, having been established in 1810. It undertook at an early time the evangelization of the American Indians simultaneously with its work in India and in the Sandwich Islands. Its missionaries have always been thoroughly educated men and especially instructed to report to the Board as to matters of ethnological and archaeological interest. The report now under consideration is an instance in point.—W. W. W.

³Rev. Thomas Smith Williamson, M. D., a missionary of the American Board from Ripley, Ohio. He was a son of Rev. William Williamson, and was born at Fairforest, S. C., in March, 1800. He graduated at Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, 1820, studied medicine at Cincinnati and New Haven, received the degree of doctor of medicine from Yale College in 1824, and studied theology at Lane Seminary, Cincinnati. His wife was Margaret Poage of Ripley, born in Mason County, Kentucky, in October,