those Indians a good thing &c., he replied in the affirma-
tive, but, for some frivolous reasons, said he could do noth-
ing towards establishing one. As he manifested none other
but a friendly disposition I took him to mean what he said
until I should have evidence to the contrary as I after-
wards had; when, after some weeks, he said to me that
"Missionaries would only make them worse." This is not
precisely the expression but the idea conveyed.

Mr. Metoxen has since informed me that he had an in-
terview with Black Hawk after he had been up to Rock
Island. Black H. was returning to his village and Mr. M.
had just been to visit it and was on his return to Rock I.
Black H. was exceedingly anxious to talk with him and
meeting at a trading-house they had a good interpreter.
Black H. then went on to tell him how kindly he was
treated by the white people wherever he went when on his
tour. "In no place, says he, did I see the white men and
white squaws drinking together the same as our people do.
When I passed through your place it was just so, and I want
to have my people just like those good white people, for I
see where they do not drink they do better and live better.
Now what do you think is best about receiving mission-
aries, &c?" "By all means receive them, I replied, says
Mr. M., for they will do you good." Black H. "But the
trader, Mr. D., told me not to have anything to do with
them for they would only make you worse."

Another gentleman informed me that he met a clerk of
the Am. Fur Co. on a steam-boat, and he manifested the
same spirit of opposition and made precisely the same re-
mark which Mr. D. had to Black H. This same clerk gave
a horse to old Ke-o-kuck last spring as a token of friend-
ship. Such men, the wild, untutored Indian supposes his
friend rather than those who would carry to his people the
everlasting gospel.

To a white man who had lived some four years with
these Indians and speaks the language well I put the ques-
tion, "What idea have those Indians of a missionary?"
Ans.— "That he is a bad man and goes amongst them for