

word of God teaches us to expect that "offences" and trials will come to try and purify and purge the Church for to make manifest such as are approved, whilst such as have only "a name to live" stumble and fall.

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But faith almost fails at times, and I feel well nigh sinking down into despondency in view of the many and to human view insurmountable obstacles which at present appear to lie in the way of the future welfare and prosperity of this people. One consequence has been an increase of intemperance, idleness and wrecklessness in some instances though not to a great extent. There is little brotherly love, and little unity of the spirit amongst the professed followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. Still "the Lord of hosts is with us the God of Jacob is our refuge."

The Church numbers about the same that it did last year there having been no additions or deaths during this time.

Meetings on the Sabbath have been well attended and there is serious and solemn attention paid to preaching. Notwithstanding the troubles and animosities existing amongst them, it does not appear to affect their attendance upon public worship. In the house of God the two hostile parties meet on the Sabbath and mingle in the devotions of the sanctuary as though all was as it should be — peace and harmony, and the passing stranger would not discover anything by the appearance to the contrary. The sum and substance of their difficulties now are, that the Indian party, so called, is unwilling to become citizens of the United States. This they say would extinguish the Indian state which they wish to preserve. It is indeed remarkable with what tenacity Indians for the most part adhere to this state. Few have sufficient penetration to see that it is an injury and if adhered to will in time extinguish utterly the Aboriginal race as tribes or nations. The work of diminution is going on at the present time amongst all the tribes on the frontiers in the United States.

The only thing which can arrest this work of extinction is the gospel. But this owing to the obstacles which it