

have laid our dwelling in ashes as little could have been saved provided all had escaped with their lives. The fire originated from a defect in the construction of the hearth. The loss of property is perhaps not more than 60 or 70 dollars.

In no event of my life, have I ever seen more manifestly the hand of God, & none scarcely in which it deserves more devoutly to be acknowledged. It was his watchful providence, who never slumbereth nor sleepeth, which awaked me, for I retired Sab. eve. unusually fatigued with the labors of the day & had rested quietly until that time beyond which all human efforts to have saved our dwelling would have been wholly abortive. Blessed be God, for altho' he has chastened us still he has remembered mercy and spared our dwelling &c. in this inclement season of the year. May we be more entirely devoted to him in future.

25th. Christmas. At a Council previously called the nation of their own accord resolved to spend the day in a religious manner. It has usually been a day of mirth & festivity amongst the young people. We met at the usual hour of meeting on the Sab. and had religious exercises and devoted the afternoon to the cause of temperance. There was a general attendance at meeting all day, and I returned home rejoicing that God had put it into their hearts to spend the day so differently and profitably too from what it had been spent in years previous.

28th. Spent a part of the day in visiting. Passed some Menominie wigwams, and hearing the sound of a native drum, concluded that they were performing some religious rite and I stopped to witness it. As I approached I heard a number of men singing a native tune which was responded to by the women emitting the sound thro the nose, so that at a distance it sounded like persons in distress. When I came up I inquired what was going on within? "Mani-to-kan-so" (Grand-Medicine-dance) one replied very seriously, and went on to tell me that a child was sick & expected to