

The fame of this Mission among the Wyandots began to spread abroad. Bishop McKendree appointed John P. Finley, in the summer of 1818, to go and establish a school at the Mission. Owing to some treaty matters that remained unsettled, the school was not commenced. But Stewart labored with increasing success. The Ohio Annual Conference, held at Cincinnati, August 7, 1819, took charge of the Mission. It was in the Lebanon District, and Rev. James B. Finley was the Presiding Elder. Rev. James Montgomery was appointed missionary to aid Stewart. At the end of two years, as the Presiding Elder, Rev. James B. Finley was appointed missionary to the Wyandots and took up Stewart's work. The health of Stewart began to fail, and on the 17th of December, 1823, he died. For some time he had been unable to work. The Church had purchased him a tract of land---fifty-three acres---on which the Wyandots had erected him a hewed-log house. He had married a mulatto girl, and he and his wife lived in happiness. He died strong in the faith he had brought to

others. After the erection of the Mission buildings at Upper Sandusky, his body was brought there and buried in the Mission cemetery.

Space forbids the inclination to follow the development of the Wyandot Mission at Upper Sandusky. It comprised a Church and a school. Connected with the school were the necessary buildings for the accommodation of the children who attended. There was a farm of 640 acres, which was cultivated principally by the Wyandot children who attended the school at the mission. The writer has known a goodly number of the Wyandots who were educated at the Wyandot Mission. Even in the decline of life and in the disappointment which the vanishing hopes of man always bring, they spoke with joy and enthusiasm of the days spent at the Mission. It was a lamp unto their lives---a light which had guided their feet in the journey through this life.

This beacon thus set up to light the way of the heathen became the most famous Indian Mission. It was the center of the social and religious life and progress of the Wyandot people. Most of the founders of Methodism in Ohio and the Northwest were connected with it. Civilization, education, peace, contentment resulted from it. So much attached to it were the Wyandots that when they came to the mouth of the Kansas River to live, they brought the Mission and their missionary with them. They did not, of course, bring the buildings of the Mission,

but they brought the living spiritual body and total membership of the Mission together with its records. And one of the first acts of the Wyandots in their new home, was the establishment there of the old Wyandot Mission.