

FLAT HEAD INDIAN MISSIONARIES.

The Rev. Jason Lee, with brother Shepherd arrived in this city on Saturday, 22d March; and on Tuesday evening following we held an interesting missionary meeting in the Fourth street church. The evening was somewhat inclement, which was, to some extent, the cause of the congregation being small. On the platform were seen our Presbyterian and Methodist brethren sweetly uniting in this great cause. After the object of the meeting was stated, the Rev. Jason Lee was introduced to the audience as one of the missionaries (the other not being present) to the Flat Head Indians. He then addressed the meeting for about one hour in a strain of argument, and at times with much pathos. He showed that the Indians were always the friend of the white man until they had cause for war; that the Indian was not naturally ferocious and revengeful, but that this religion taught him to pursue his enemy to death; that if an Indian or white man should kill one of a family, or tribe, that the friends of the deceased were instructed by their religion that the spirit of the murdered one could not be in peace until they had slain the murderer; and hence, we should be willing, with our prayers and money, to send them a better religion. He deplored in strong terms the introduction of the fire waters (to use their own emphatic language) among the Indians, by the white man; and that this of itself had produced more evil, and caused more death among them than any thing else. He concluded by a fervent prayer to God to make him and his colleague, with those who should

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follow them, the humble instruments of preserving one of the many remnants of tribes of the Indians in the distant west, from utter extinction.

Rev. Mr. Sawtell of the Presbyterian Church next addressed the meeting in a forcible and encouraging manner, and concluded by addressing the missionary most affectionately, assuring him that he should remember him, and the cause of the mission, in his prayers, and bidding him go, in the name of his Master, and erect the standard of the cross in the Indian wigwam.

The Rev. William Holman of the Methodist E. Church, made the concluding speech. He spoke in his usual warm and soothing manner; said he felt ardent in the cause of missions, and had for twenty years; and were it not for his being encumbered (alluding, I suppose, to his family) he would go tomorrow morning with his brother to the Flat Heads. He was not afraid to encounter the difficulties and the perils of the enterprize. He believed God was engaged in the work--and why should he fear. He proposed that a collection should be lifted in aid of the mission, and urged many reasons why Christians especially should give liberally. The collection amounted to about \$90.

The missionaries left for St. Louis on the 26th of March.

Samuel Dickinson.

Louisville, March 28, 1834.