

Onedida, West De Pere, Wis.

"The Hampton Institute Christian Endeavor Society was organized in 1892 and from the first has been a success. In the early days the Indians who came to Hampton could not speak English very well, and were rather timid about expressing themselves in public. For this reason it was thought a good plan to have a society where the Indians could be by themselves and responsible for their own meetings. This society has brought together the boys and girls of different tribes who did not understand each other's language and ways much better than they understood English.

"It would be hard to estimate the benefit the Christian Endeavor Society has been to the Hampton Indians. One of the members who graduated last year said that but for the Christian Endeavor he does not think he would have ever realized his responsibilities to his race, and many others have the same feeling."

This, in brief, is the interesting history of the Hampton Institute Christian Endeavor, as told by Arthur Harris.

Dan N. Thomas delighted the audience with two religious songs—one, "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder," being the first hymn translated into the Pima language. Thomas also talked about the work of Dr. Charles Cook among the Pimas of Arizona. Dr. Cook went to Arizona in 1870. There are about 4000 Indians in the tribe, and now fully two-thirds of them are Protestants; also there are many Catholics.

Luther Smith gave some information concerning his tribe, the Oneidas, and how they moved from New York to Wisconsin. He sang two of their religious songs. Miss Hunter also sang a Winnebago song.

The part of the program by these Indian students was enthusiastically received.

"People who are not familiar with reservation conditions do not realize to what hardships educated Indians return when they leave school. In many cases the old people do not want their children educated and want them to return to their old ways when they go home. In 1893 the Hampton Institute Christian Endeavor began sending letters of cheer and encouragement at Christmas time to the active members who had returned to their homes. Last year the letter was sent to twenty-five states, Canada, and Nova Scotia, so that even those who are not at Hampton are still helped by the society. This year started with 65 per cent of the Indians at Hampton enrolled as active members of the society."