

Dennis (Strikes First)

Date of Death: January 19, 1881

Name variations: Dennis

Documents compiled here recording information about the death and burial of Dennis (Strikes First):

1. Card from Student Information Cards Series, NARA, RG 75, Entry 1329, box 5.
2. Card from Student Record Cards Series, NARA, RG 75, Entry 1328, box 3.
3. "Died," *Eadle Keatah Toh*, volume 1, Carlisle Barracks, PA, January 1881, page 3.
4. Hepburn, C. H., Carlisle, to Richard Henry Pratt, Carlisle, 20 January 1881, Entry 91, Letters Received by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (1881-1907), box 4, item 1524.

Name *Dennis* File No. En.
" " G.
" " D.

Indian name
Strikes First

Tribe *Sionyx* Age *12* Blood

Agency *Rosebud*

Father *Blue Tomahawk*

Arrived *10-6-79* Departed *1-19-87* Cause *Death*

Class entered Class left

Trade Outing

Character

Married Deceased *1881*

Remarks over

CARLISLE BARRACKS, PA., JANUARY, 1881.

MASON D. PRATT Publisher
Subscription price—Fifty cents a year.

Entered at the Postoffice of Carlisle, Pa., as Second Class Mail Matter.

HOME ITEMS.

—Our chapel has been neatly white-washed. Morton, Cecil and one white man did the work.
—Bread baking has long ceased to be a very heavy tax upon the supt. baker, almost the whole amount is done by apprentices.

—During the Christmas vacation three of the school-rooms were refloored. The work was done by Indian apprentices with one white mechanic.

—The steam-heater which at first did not work well, owing to defective draft, is now satisfactory, it heats more than 40 large rooms.

—Joe Gun, a Ponca boy is one of the best carpenters, he has made some small stands as specimens of his work, one of these the Ponca Agent took home with him. They are neatly in-laid on the top.

—Roman Nose, one of the tanners apprentices made a dozen tin cups for Capt. Pratt which can't be beat. He works assiduously at his trade showing more zeal and working capacity than is usual with Indians.

—In getting out our paper we labor under many disadvantages, the principal one being the pressure of necessary school duties. We must beg the kind indulgence of our subscribers at the same time assuring them that they will receive the full number for which they have subscribed.

—We have received the December number of The Hallaquah, published at the Wyandotte Mission School, Quapaw Agency, Ind. Ter. This is the declaration of the student editors as to why they are at school: "We are not here for idle pastime but for work, earnest hard work, with our hands as well as brains, each day to accomplish some task which seems impossible and can only be done by bringing into action all the will, power, energy and perseverance that we possess." The Hallaquah ought to grow. These students certainly will.

—Some evidences of improvement and of careful work in the shops are very apparent. Dan Tucker can forge any piece of iron required on a wagon, Henderson can put up a good wheel, and Chas. Kawboodle is promising well. In the harness shop a good deal of the work shows improvement. On a set of superior pony harness, the traces were stitched by three different boys, but the work was so nearly alike that it was impossible to distinguish any difference in its quality. George Walker has just completed a set of single harness his own work entirely except a little stitching on the pad.

—The Ponca chiefs who recently visited Washington to confer with the authorities concerning their tribal affairs, spent a day with us on their homeward journey. They expressed themselves as highly pleased with the result of the thorough examination they gave the school and especially so with the improvement shown by the children of their tribe who are here. Chief White Eagle whose son is a student here, said in a little speech he made to us, that for a long time it seemed as though the Great Spirit had forgotten all about the Indians, but now when he saw what privileges their children had, how fast they were learning in the school and how well they worked in the shops, he believed the Great Spirit was remembering the Indians and was now going to help them. The party took home a number of articles manufactured in the shops that their people might see what was being done by their absent children.

With Indians Work?

"An Indian train left on the 9th for Arkansas City and will return with flour. Pretty cold for such a drive, but the Indians are becoming very reliable freighters and will get through all right regardless of the weather."—Cheyenne Transporter.

Good for the Cheyennes and Arapahoes and good for Agent Miles the pioneer of the Indian freighting business.—Ed.

From the Indian Journal.

"Perhaps of all the peculiar congregations that have assembled, our town has had its share in variety, but in all its history never such a one as gathered in the Presbyterian Church last evening. Nearly one-half of the large audience was composed of Indian youth, twenty-five of whom had been sent to go to Carlisle in acceptance of Secretary Schurz' magnificent proposition. In the pulpit sat two war worn veterans of the missionary service, Rev. W. S. Robertson and Rev. R. M. Loughridge. As a most suitable setting for the bright and nervously interested faces of the children, were those of fathers and mothers, grave with the solicitude of parental affection and yet wearing unmistakably language of determination, which expressed no lack of desire for the love and companionship of the children, but rather a resignation of these for the present, that greater opportunities than they have ever known, might be opened up, to preparation for a nobler and wiser type of man and womanhood in the generations to come. As a speaker remarked, this is an epoch in the history of the Creek people, and surely it is such a well defined opening to possibilities both to those who have gone and to those who remain, that every honest worker for Indian progress, is justified in believing that the door to peership with other nations, is for them at last, ajar.

We judge the selections made from the Tullahassee pupils to be excellent ones. They are fine representatives from the prize classes and all from good families. The following are the names of those taken, and who left on Wednesday evening in charge of Judge Moore and Mrs. Craig:"

GIRLS.

Rosa Ross,	Minnie Atkins,
Millie Brown,	Sarah E. Crowell,
Nancy McIntosh,	Millie McIntosh,
Eliza Bell,	Elizabeth McNaz,
Elizabeth McIntosh,	Ella Moore,
Rachel Cheote,	Bessie West,
Martha E. Moore,	Etiza Chissoc,
	Jane Freeman.

BOYS.

Benjamin Marshall,	Robert Stewart,
Alexander McNac,	Edis Childers,
Silas Childers,	James Bell,
Cornelius Carr,	Samuel Scott,
Samuel Checote,	Almarine McKellop.

Our Gymnasium.

We need a gymnasium so we may build up physically at the same time we build up the brain. Strong minds and weak bodies will not do. Bad and cold weather prevents out-door exercise especially for the little ones. We have a stable with good brick walls and tin roof 180 ft long by 40 ft wide. We want to floor this and put in gymnastic appliances. The Department says it has no money to give us to do this. It is important. Some of our friends see it, and have sent us \$120. toward it. We want \$500.

Since Our last Acknowledgments the following Donations have been received.

viz:—	
From Miss Eva Pickard: Cash.....	\$ 20 00
“ Presb. S. School Class, Jeddo, Pa. Per. Miss M. Werden: Cash.....	4 50
From Mrs. H. B. Rodgers: Cash.....	100 00
“ Thos. Robertson: Cash.....	25 00
“ Hannah C. Lowell: Cash.....	35 00
“ Friends: per. Paul R. Cook, Cash	40 00
“ Susan Longstreth: Cash.....	500 00
“ S. L. Ropes: Cash.....	10 00
“ Roland Mather: Cash.....	100 00
“ Mrs. Laroque: Cash.....	50 00
“ Wm. Hyde: per. Miss M. Hyde, Cash.....	100 00
From S. S. Class, Florence, Mass: per. A. L. Willeston, Cash.....	10 00
From Susan Longstreth, for gymnasium: Cash.....	50 00
From T. M. Sinclair: Cash.....	100 00
“ Mary Jeanes: per. S. Longstreth, Cash.....	19 25
From Miss E. A. Prall: Cash.....	50 00
“ A. L. Willeston: Cash.....	100 00
Total.....	\$1313 75

Of this amount \$1194.50 has been contributed especially for and expended on account of the

Steam Heater, and \$119.25 for the Gymnasium.

We are also indebted to the Indian Hope, per. Mrs. Graff for a liberal supply of Christmas presents, and like donations from Mrs. Bisbing, Susan Longstreth, Miss H. M. Eggleston and from four classes of the Presbyterian S. S. Englewood, N. J., per. Miss V. T. Booth.

DIED.

On Wednesday Jan. 12th Miss Hyde, the matron at our school, was summoned home by the sad news of her father's death. Mr. Hyde, as a trustee of Hampton Institute, became interested in Indian educational work, and was a strong friend to Carlisle from the start. By many acts, his desire, and his ability to help, were fully demonstrated. In his death we have lost one of our best friends. The following brief account of his life and death, we copy from the Springfield (Mass.) Republican:

Representative Hyde of Lee died very suddenly at Boston Tuesday. He fell on the walk while leaving the state-house after the day's session at 4 o'clock. A Mr. Felt who was passing, took Mr. Hyde in his sleigh and with Dr. Bartheaux of Boston drove to the Massachusetts general hospital; but on reaching that institution life had left the body. This death will sicken and sadden many hearts. It ends a life of rectitude and sterling worth. Mr. Hyde always represented the best type of New England life. He was a son of Rev. Alvin Hyde of Lee, one of the most noted Berkshire fathers in Israel, who sent his sons William and Alexander to Williams College. The elder son, William Hyde of Ware and a trustee of the Berkshire institution, has told what "going to college" meant in 1822. The devoted mother cut her wedding dress into a coat for the young student, who walked to Williamstown where he chopped his own wood, taught school to help himself through, and learned a sturdy self-reliance in addition to the prescribed acquisitions of the course. Alexander's turn came later, and he graduated in 1834, among his classmates being E. W. B. Canning of Stockbridge, and the late Rev. Dr. N. H. Griffin of Williamstown. Mr. Hyde helped establish the first secret society at Williams by securing a chapter of the Kappa Alpha fraternity from Union college in 1833. The death of his father called Mr. Hyde on graduating to the old homestead at Lee. Here he cared for his mother by keeping a large family school, and the while studied scientific farming. Perhaps the student had dreamed of professional life, but he soon married a daughter of Lieut-Gov. Hall of New Marlboro, and from the first impressed himself upon the local life. In the church of which Rev. Dr. Gale was for so long pastor, in town and country affairs, and at Williams College, Alexander Hyde has been these many years relied upon and honored. Through his success as a scientific agriculturist and fruit-grower, he achieved more than a local reputation, delivering a course of lectures before the Lowell Institute, which the Republican printed. Mr. Hyde wrote much and well upon his specialties, being a constant contributor to the New York Times, and an occasional writer for this and other daily, weekly and monthly journals. He was for a time the conscientious and successful editor of the Lee Gleaner. Mr. Hyde was one of the prime movers in and president of the Berkshire historical society, and compiled the records of the Lee centennial. As a trustee of Gen. Armstrong's Hampton (Va.) Institute, too, Mr. Hyde has rendered valuable service. One of his daughters teaches in the Indian School at Carlisle, Pa., and Mr. Hyde has materially helped to educate these wards of the government at the East. As a legislator, he would have done excellent work. Of modest nature, Dsa. Hyde always exhibited a reserve fund of substantial good sense. Personally he was as near the Christian gentleman as men often get.

—It was a sad and mysterious coincidence by which two of our pupils were taken from us by death on the night of the 13th of December, both of them being from the same agency and the same band of Sioux.

ERNEST, Chief White Thunder's son, was sent to the hospital in October to receive treatment for a slight sore throat. The applications being disagreeable he would not submit to them. He rejected not only medicine, but nourishment, so that he became so weak and exhausted that when toward the latter part of his illness he was willing to recover, the most strenuous efforts proved powerless to save him. He was the only son of his father who was most anxious he should become an educated, useful man.

MAUD, (Little Girl) the daughter of Chief Swift Bear, was a bright, impulsive, warm-hearted girl, much loved by her school mates. She came to the Training School suffering from diseased lungs, and so had not strength to resist pneumonia which seized her. She was the first girl to die here, and the first Sioux out of more than ninety connected with the school.

Funeral services were conducted by Professor Lippincott, and the double burial is one which will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it.

On the 19th inst, DENNIS, son of Blue Tomahawk of Rosebud Agency, Dakota, died of Typhoid Pneumonia. Dennis was a bright, studious, ambitious boy, standing first in his class, and of so tractable a disposition as to be no trouble to his teachers. Two of his sisters had recently died at the agency of similar disease so that Blue Tomahawk's family is indeed bereaved.

1524

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
Rec'd JAN 26

1881

R. H. Pratt
Casille

July 25/87

Refs. report of
the Physician
of deaths of
Dennis - a Scholar
from Rosebud

~~file~~

Cook

Indians Training School,
Jan. 25. 1881.

Respectfully forwarded to
the Honorable Commission-
er of Indian Affairs for his
information.

R. H. Pratt
1st Lieut 10th Cav.
In charge.

Indian Training School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Jan 20. 1881.

Dr. C. H. Hepburn.

Reports death of Denis
a student from Peabody
Agency.

Cook

United States Indian Service,

Carlisle Barracks, Pa. Army,

Indian Training School, Jan. 20., 1881.

To

N. B. Pratt,

1st Lt. 10th Coy. In Charge.

I have the honor to report the death of the following named scholar of this school:—
Denis, Sioux, aged 13, died Jan. 19th inst. at 1.45 P.M. of Typhoid Pneumonia. He entered the Hospital Dec. 3rd ult. with symptoms of Typhoid fever of mild type; the lower lobe of right lung was soon attacked by Pneumonia, & the same region of the left lung was in a few days similarly affected. No marked violence of symptoms was manifested until about midnight of Jan. 7th inst. when a violent gastro-intestinal disturbance suddenly & unexpectedly occurred. The stomach afterward rejected all food; the exhaustion rapidly followed, terminating

United States Indian Service,

Agency,

2 , 188 .

in death at the time mentioned.

*Very Respectfully &c
C. H. Hepburn
Physician*

1881
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INDIAN AFFAIRS