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OFFICE OF
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MAY 31

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R. H. Pratt

Carlisle, Ind

May 29-

Report rel to Arbor
day -

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~~Miss L. Pratt~~
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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., May 29. 1890

To the Hon.

Commr. of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Complying with request contained in Circular of January 30th 1890, in regard to Arbor day, I have the honor to transmit herewith an account of the proceedings at this School on that day. The exercises were full of interest, and the students entered fully into the spirit of the occasion. In my judgment, great good will ensue from the Annual observance of such a day in Indian Schools.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt

RH Potter

per. A. J. Standing ^{Capt. & Supt.} Asst Supt. In Chg

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Indian Industrial School,
Carlisle, Pa.

Arbor Day: April 25, 1890.

Of the two "Arbor Days" appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania, the Industrial School at Carlisle chose April 25th. Some time before the day & its significance were brought to the attention of the different schools & later, the pupils of each voted for the kind of tree they would prefer to plant & their preference was granted as far as possible, though not all the varieties selected could be obtained. Compositions were written upon trees & pupils selected to prepare speeches or recitations for the coming day. Owing to the nearness of Commencement Day, the graduating class were excused from all individual preparation, but shared the general exercises.

On Friday, April 25th, the shops were closed & at 9.30 A. M. the school assembled

in the chapel where it was called to order by Miss Fisher Principal, & after the singing of a "Tree Song," was addressed by Mr. Standing, Assistant Superintendent, who set forth the importance of tree culture & gave some interesting facts about curious, useful or remarkable trees. All then repaired to their several school-rooms, from whence each school proceeded to plant its own tree, under the supervision of two committees who divided the number of trees between them.

For the next half-hour the grounds around the school-house presented an animated scene, each school being gathered around its own tree, & every scholar plainly feeling an interest in comfortably disposing the soil about its roots. The planting was done without ceremony save by the choir & graduating class, who set their trees with song.

The tree planted by No. 12 School, was staked & placarded with the death of George Washington, leaving all readers to infer

that the trees were safe from the devastating little hatchet.

In the afternoon, the following program of literary exercises was carried out.

Singing: - Spring has come, by the Choir.

The Object of Planting Trees.

Martin Archiquette, Oneida

Interesting Trees

Louisa King, Oneida

Singing: - Brave Old Oak, School

The Elm Tree

Robt Hamilton, Piegan

Original Composition, "Penn's Elm,"

Henry Phillips, Thlinket

The Little Acorn

Ulysses Paisano, Pueblo.

Singing: - Nature's Tribute, Choir

The Planting of the Apple Tree, W. C. Bryant.

Minnie Topi, Pawnee

An Exercise on Trees,

Boys of No. 5.

An Extract from Beecher's "Discourse on Trees,"

Harvey Warner, Omaha.

Singing: - April Song, Choir.

The Live Oak Henry R. Jackson.

Otto Zotohm, Kiowa.

Among the Trees, Bryant.

Martinez Johns, Oneida.

Singing: - Marching Song School.

With the last number the school disbanded
singing,

We are marching for the arbor,
And our hearts are free from care;
All our thoughts in tune to nature,
With the music of the air.

Chorus: - Marching merrily, singing cheerily,
And our hearts are free from care;
Buds are springing, birds are singing,
There is music everywhere.

Thinking of the happy families,
In the happy bye & bye,
Who will come to take our places,

When our school days have gone by.

Chorus:- Marching merrily, singing cheerily,
And our hearts are free from care;
Bells are ringing, joys are springing,
There is gladness everywhere.

Flowers are smiling, bees are humming,
O'er the land we're passing through:
Robin shyly greets our coming,
Everything to nature true.

Chorus:- Marching merrily, singing cheerily,
And our hearts are free from care;
Colors blending, tints mending,
There is beauty everywhere.

The exercises of the day tended to open to the pupils new trains of thought & to invest objects more or less familiar to them, with new interest.

In the evening Capt. Long of Gettysburg exhibited stereopticon views of the Gettysburg Battle-field, giving a detailed account of the three days' battle.