

1616 La Vereda Street, nr. Hilgard Ave.,
Berkeley, California,
September 12th, 1916.

Dr. Charles F. Himes,
Carlisle, Pa.

My dear Doctor:-

Your good and thoroughly enjoyed letter followed me to Portland, then to Siletz, Oregon, and back to Berkeley before it finally caught up.

I returned here ten days ago, and we have been moving from Frisco to Berkeley, so that my time has been much occupied. I leave tomorrow to go East for two Indian conferences, one at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and the other at Lake Mohonk, New York. I shall be in Philadelphia and if at all practicable will run out to Carlisle.

The Indians I had under care in Florida were selected bad men from the Kiowa, Comanche, Cheyenne and Arapachoes and were taken from Fort Sill by me to Florida in the spring of 1875. The Geronimo and Apaches were not taken there until eleven years later, in 1886.

After your letter I looked through the Carlisle publications, and found that two of your talks to the Indian students were noticed by the Editor, Miss Burgess, the first in January 1880, a little notice, "Why Does It Burn."

"Professor Himes, of Dickinson College, gave the Indian boys a number of experiments at the college laboratory, on Tuesday the 13th inst. The clear and terse explanations of each experiment by the Prof., added to the interest, and when he touched off a quantity of powder with a drop of water the surprise of the boys was unbounded. The boys were highly delighted with their treat, and the school authorities feel greatly indebted to Prof. Himes for his kindly interest in the pupils and generous gifts

#2

of time and ability to aid in the work of enlightening their darkened minds."

and the second in April 1880:-

"About forty of the older boys and girls are again made to wonder at the power of the white man's "medicine," by a lecture on "Lightning," from their good friend Prof. Chas. F. Himes, of Dickinson College. The stroke of lightning that knocked the miniature house to pieces was so real that all were startled, and the girls gave the usual little civilized screech. The most amusing thing was when the spark of electricity passed from Roman Nose's nose to High Forehead's knuckle; while they two were badly shocked, the remainder of the party were convulsed with laughter. Prof. Himes seemed to have enough lightning to go around, for when Mr. "Talks with Bears" and Mr. "Kills Without Wounding" and Mr. "White Whirlwind," and Mr. "Short Leg," and Mr. "Runs after the Moon," and Mr. "Wants to be Chief," and Mr. "Makes trouble in Front," and Miss "Wooden Ear Rings," and Miss "White Cow," and Miss "Red Road," and Miss "Stands Looking," and Miss "Brave Killer" and a dozen others took hold of hands to test the strength of Prof. Himes' electric medicine, most of them found it stronger than they could stand, but a few of the boys held on to the last, although they did get badly jerked."

I have a very distinct recollection of your talks and feel that there were others and much more said than is noticed in the school paper. However, you know at that time I was rushed to death with work, and many things that otherwise would have been taken care of were not properly noticed.

I have continued my struggle to get the Indians into their proper place before the country as you probably know. One of my latest efforts is enclosed which truly represents so far as I am able the facts and conclusions by my more than forty-nine years of observation and experience in Indian matters.

I am sorry to cut my letter short, but hope to see you in Carlisle before the end of October. If I do not it will be simply for lack of time. I must visit my children and must stop in and make one little visit with one of my oldest

#3

and most valued friends in Texas, a man who in his 88th year writes me frequently long and very serviceable letters. Like myself he had many experiences among the Indians in their primitive conditions and passed through some considerable perils.

Thanking you dear Doctor for writing to me, and I shall feel more at liberty to write to you later should I not happen to see you.

Sincerely yours,

Rt Pratt



BERKELEY
SEP 13
12 M
1916
CAL.

PANAMA CAL
INTERNATIONAL F
AT SAN DIEG



Pratt

Dr. Chas. F. Himes
Carlisle
Pa

Postage Due 2 Cents

PI 1-1-23