

THE INDIAN HELPER

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A WEEKLY LETTER

FROM THE

Carlisle Indian Industrial School To Boys and Girls.

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VOL. V. FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1890 NUMBER 52
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BETTER TO "GO IT ALONE,"

An incomplete common school education, a plunge into some business unprepared, a careless effort and partial success, fill out the record of far too many lives.

Thoroughness, application and hard work are necessary to win.

The story of the lives of successful men is plain.

It has always been so.

Gibbon said; "the best and most important part of every man's education is that which he gives himself."

Then be self-reliant.

"In battle or business, whatever the game,

In law or in love, it is ever the name.

In the struggle for power, or the scramble for self,

Let this be your motto. Rely on yourself.

For whether the prize be a ribbon or throne,

The victor is he who can go it alone."

[For THE HELPER.]

A DOCTOR AND HIS WIFE AMONG THE INDIANS.

Fifteen years ago it was my pleasant fortune to spend some time at Wichita, Indian Territory.

These few years have marked great changes in the Indians and their country.

Then we could count on our hands every house they owned in that part of the Territory where we were acquainted.

The houses had been built by the government, and were little used.

A certain log house was the center of a chief's home.

It was looked upon as a curiosity, something to be kept for show, not to be used carelessly.

The chief's real home was his tepees and his arbors.

These were grouped together around his log hut.

The arbors were open and had floors three or four feet above the ground.

Underneath these rude and broken floors the dogs congregated, and the chickens.

The chickens were few, but the dogs were many, of all colors and sizes and dispositions.

Some of them I thought were ferocious, and I have often held my riding skirt, and my

feet high up on the saddle for fear I should be pulled off, when riding through the camps.

I soon learned however that "barking dogs do not bite"--a proverb which will apply to individuals as well as dogs.

Mostly the Indian dogs were ugly, cowardly curs, without a single virtue.

How they subsisted, I cannot tell, for I have known many of their owners to be so poor that they had not enough to eat, and were continually hungry.

Sometimes we have known Indians to kill and eat their dogs; they make a kind of stew of them.

We were often assured by a progressive Catholic Priest and other trustworthy persons that to partake of such a feast is to eat what is both toothsome and wholesome.

The fact that the number of dogs in a village never seemed to diminish even in the most trying times, led us to believe that the Indians do not eat dog meat as long as they can live without it.

It is nothing against them if they do eat such food when pressed with hunger.

It was not until the siege of Paris that the French, aesthetic people as they are, learned to eat the noble horse, and more ignoble mule.

Why the Indians kept so many greedy dogs puzzled us.

Since then we have noticed that among our own people, the poorer and more ignorant a family is the more dogs they keep.

Indeed in some communities of poor broken houses and starving population we often see almost as many dogs as children.

In those days buffalo were plentiful, and many were the nice pieces of buffalo steak the neighborly Indians brought us.

The dried meat is delicious, especially the fat. It is not like beef or any other flesh, but more like bread.

In eating a dinner of beef or mutton, we very soon reach the limit of our appetite, but with buffalo there is no satiety.

We are Indians enough to believe that we shall never again eat flesh so sweet and good.

Perhaps it is with this as with any other thing as the more scarce it is, the more desirable. In taking the stage route from Wichita Kansas to Wichita Agency a distance of two

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The Indian Helper.

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INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, CARLISLE, PA. BY THE
INDIAN PRINTER BOYS.

--> THE INDIAN HELPER is PRINTED by Indian boys, but EDITED by
The-Man-on-the-band-stand, who is NOT an Indian.

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Miss M. Burgess, Manager.

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The INDIAN HELPER is paid for in advance, so do not hesitate to take the paper from the Post Office,
for fear a bill will be presented.

.....[first part of article garbled] It is not if everybody is quiet better work is and more is crowded into the
time.

M.O.T.B.S. has heard many boys and say that the coming year is to be the best for them - that they intend
to take bold do their part well and get the most out of advantages offered. This should be true of every
one. It is the right spirit in which to begin the new year. What we miss we seldom know until the
opportunity is passed. We seldom stop to think how much we fail to learn in school until it is too late.
Three words sum it all up: Be docile, obedient, studious.

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There is a kind of education in this life which every man must have, and which he can only get in one
way, and that is the education of experience. Very few men are entirely willing to profit by the experience
of others.

How to get there!

Do you wish to stand in a high place, and to be thought well of, either as a workman or a scholar? Would
you like to know how to get into such a place? Ask yourself: "What am I doing to make myself valuable in
the small position I now occupy?" "Am I doing with all my might what my hands find to do?"

If you are, the chances are ten to one that you are making yourself so valuable in your present position that you cannot be spared from it, but that is the *very* time you will be sought for to fill a higher and better place.

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As usual the mail this week brought in many subscribers-some new, some renewals, and the printer boys are kept busy arranging and properly placing them. And yet the cry is for more, many more names to whom the little paper may be sent. Everything is in good condition in the Office and in order to keep the whole force on the move the galleys must be kept well-filled. The Mailing list during the coming winter should reach 15,000. To secure this is only a question of what our friends intend to do for us. The boys here are willing,-the rest is with you.

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The yearly report of the school, to be inserted in the Annual Report of the Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs, is commencing to assume shape, and will be somewhat fuller than the reports for the past few years. It is desired that many of the details leading to the formation of the school should be outlined besides giving many of the important steps taken since the opening in '79. Such facts will interest every one. The report no doubt will be printed in the September number of the *Red Man*.

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With this issue another volume of the HELPER is complete. It seems but a short time since we entered upon volume V, but in the meantime fifty-two numbers have been issued and next week volume VI begins. Yes, we are growing old and at the same time widening our range and weekly increasing the circulation. Quite a half million of HELPERS were mailed by our Indian boys last year. We want to make it three-quarters of a million this year.

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Word received from Mr. Standing indicates that a good party of Nez Perces children will be here in a short time. They start east the close of this week and will probably reach Carlisle next Wednesday or Thursday.

Miss Fletcher, so well known in Indian work, has been lending a helping hand in gathering this party of pupils from far away Idaho.

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'Tis well said, that the fact we live tells us there is something ahead. Every one has a future - some short, others long. WE can prepare ourselves for such time by doing our duty in the present. To think well and act well means contentment and happiness for us now and in the end will make us truly successful.

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Captain spent a day in Washington this week looking after school matters.

Ambrose one of the little boys returned early last Saturday morning after a most, delightful outing in New York state for a month.

Mrs. Pratt, Mrs. Campbell, Miss Fisher and several of the little folks spent a day at Hunters Run this week. All had a very pleasant time.

Miss Burgess, accompanied by Miss Kate Irvine, has been spending the week at Doubling Gap, a very popular resort in the mountains up the Valley.

The new store-house will be 100 feet by 30, two stories high. The building will be a plain, substantial structure with a wide approach facing the west end of the large boys' quarters.

Miss Hunt returned to the school after a pleasant vacation mostly spent in and about Chautauqua. Mrs. Worthington is also back from her vacation spent at Sunbury. Miss Cook returned the middle of the week.

The plasterers have about completed their work in the large boys' quarters. Many of the rooms were torn up for some time but things are being put in shape again and every thing will be settled before the cold weather is upon us.

All the old corps of teachers remain during the coming year. Heretofore there have always been some few changes--some new at the opening of the school year. The school room work the coming year should be the most successful ever yet experienced.

After waiting all the summer for necessary flags two were received early in the week, and they have been doing service ever since. It is expected that two large garrison flags and two post flags, somewhat smaller, will be received before many days. The two received this week are storm flags.

The grass has been carefully watched this summer and when necessary the lawn mowers were put in play. In fact the lawn mowers have been on the go all the time. The great quantity of rain which has fallen has enabled the grass to grow rapidly, causing continuous work, but as a result the grounds look fresh and green. All the bare spots have been covered over.

There is talk of the ball team going to Lewistown to play a game soon after the opening of school. It would be well if a game could be played before that time with some good nine here on the school grounds. The team that goes away as far as Lewistown should be a winning team, and only the very best players selected.

It seems that the wishes of the M. O. T. B. S. are never consulted when the Chief Clerk suddenly decides to go off. However no complaint can be made this time, for the chief clerk has been ailing somewhat the past few weeks and a little outing of a week or so will be just the thing to revive her and make it possible for her to please better than ever the many readers of the HELPER.

The number of applications this year for position as teachers has been unusually large.

Minnie Paisano, who went with the Grinnells, stood the journey very well, and is now with her people in New Mexico.

Word from Dr. Grinnell tells of their safe arrival in their former home, Pasadena, Cal. The trip on the whole was a pleasant one.

Henry Phillips is walking about again after being confined several weeks in the Hospital, it will be remembered. Henry met with a severe accident in the machine shop in the town.

The English speaking meeting Saturday night was held as usual. In the absence of Captain and Mr. Standing, who are always wont to lead this meeting, Miss Bishop took charge.

Quite a change in the weather this week. Not quite as bad however was the case in New York and a few of the New England states where they had frost. Think of it, frost in August!

Dr. Stewart who has been the physician since Dr. Grinnell's departure is off for a two weeks' trip to Atlantic City and along the coast. A permanent resident physician will be here in a month or so.

A very pleasant incident in connection with the sociable last Friday evening was the way some of the boys, of their own accord, welcomed the teachers back after their vacations. It was manly and courteous.

The Grangers Picnic held the last week in August each year at Williams Grove attracted many of the boys who have money of their own. There was also a corresponding increase of visitors on the grounds here during the week incident to the picnic.

Mr. Campbell returned to the school Wednesday evening from his trip among the boys on farms. It takes a long time to go around and see personally every one of the 275 who have been out for the vacation; but this is that Mr. Campbell did. He returns with some excellent reports as well as some unfavorable comments regarding certain ones.

The sick list has been greatly reduced during the present month. In fact for the past two weeks there have been only four pupils who required the attention of the hospital corps. This is as it should be and with proper care and attention on the part of all the boys and girls the number will not be increased however much the weather may change.

The sociable last Friday evening was in every way successful. The new pupils seemed to enjoy the occasion as much as those who have been here longest. Everybody seemed to be in a happy humor. There was an easiness manifested by the boys and girls which should characterize all the sociables. This was the first one to be held during this session.

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hundred and fifty miles we met large herds of buffalo who would look up at us with curiosity. Even when they started over the hills they did not seem to hurry. Now there is but a small herd left in all America, and they are preserved in the National Park. In those days many of the Indians were hungry. I often wondered why they did not fish more in the Wichita. Catfish were abundant, though a person must work some and wiat more to obtain them. The Caddoes were never hungry there, I think. While the Kiowas and Wichitas, and Kechies and other wild tribes were waiting around the office to beg permission of the Agent to go on a buffalo hunt, or sitting on the commissary doorsteps in hopes that the flour and sugar and coffee would soon put in an appearance, what were the Caddoes doing? They were planting corn and melons and pumpkins. They were driving their little herds of beef to water, or keeping watch over their few fat pigs. Among any people, *Industry* is the key to comfort, and there is no truer proverb than this for the Indian or the white man "If a man does not work, neither shall he eat". We could see a change in the wild tribes as time passed on. A rich little piece of land by the creek grew to have its charms. Vulgar people called the little garden a "Squaw patch", but I think it no more a squaw patch than the little window-garden in the pretty cottage of any lady or the kitchen garden at the rear of most farm houses in which the women do the most of the work and enjoy it too. The Indians learned to like cooked vegetables, and strings of dried pumpkin came to be prominent features, hung all about in close proximity to the medicine pole with its red rag and glass bottle and piece of deer hide. I accompanied the Doctor in his daily rounds to the camp. The trails on the prairie were used in single file and if we kept to the road we must ride one behind the other. Frequently we met parties of Indians, and if the Doctor happened to be ahead they invariably turned out and gave him the trail because he was "heap big medicine man." But, if I chanced to be ahead the case was different, and it was a long time before they learned the sort of politeness which white men accord to woman. When I was ahead on the trail and met an old Chief with his train I did not look in his face, save to say "How," and with my eyes strait before me kept the trail. Sometimes there was a halt. Who had ever heard of a Chief giving the road to a "Squaw? and there were all his own squaws right behind him to witness the circumstance. We often dismounted at the camps and of course my husband assisted me, much to the amusement of the spectators.

When we were ready to leave the village the whole population apparently assembled to see what to them was a funny sight.

There were men as curious as the rest but evidently not much in favor of this change in their affairs which might result in "Woman's Rights."

But the women themselves were the most interested.

The wild, half naked children peeping from behind the lodges seemed to get the most real fun out of it.

After I was assisted to mount they would all set up a perfect chorus for the Doctor, and crowd around him with emphatic demonstrations.

We were never quite sure whether they were making fun of him or praising him, but it made no difference

I carried lumps of cube sugar in my pocket and distributed it among the children.

It was not long before we had an army of little ones at our heels.

Sometimes there was not enough sugar to go around and then we watched to see them quarrel over it.

But did they quarrel? No indeed, I never saw two Indian children quarrel over anything in camp.

Perhaps they did, but I never saw them.

These little fellows would crack their sugar and give a piece of the white lump to their playmates just as any good children do.

THE DOCTOR'S WIFE.

Enigma.

I am made of 13 letters.

My 6, 8, 11, 4, 7 is necessary to make bread.

My 13, 12, 11, 9, 3 is a trap for catching birds.

My 5, 8, 2, 9, 6 is the name of a fruit.

My 4, 1, 10, 12 is a method of making linen.

My whole is the name of a religious sect.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ENIGMA: Character.

STANDING OFFER: - For FIVE new subscribers to the INDIAN HELPER, we will give the person sending them a photographic group of the 17 Carlisle Indian Printer boys, on a card 4 1/2 X 6 1/2 inches, worth 20 cents when sold by itself. Name and tribe of each boy given.

(Persons wishing the above premium will please enclose a 1-cent stamp to pay postage.)

For TEN, Two PHOTOGRAPHS, one showing a group of Pueblos as they arrived in wild dress, and another of the same pupils three years after, or, for the same number of names we give two photographs showing still more marked contrast between a Navajoe as he arrived in native dress, and as he now looks, worth 20 cents a piece.

The new combination picture showing all our buildings and band-stand, (boudoir) will also be given for TEN subscribers.

(Persons wishing the above premiums will please enclose a 2-cent stamp to pay postage.)

For FIFTEEN, we offer a GROUP of the whole school on 9x14 inch card. Faces show distinctly, worth sixty cents.

For FIFTEEN, the new combination picture 8x10 showing all our buildings.

(Persons wishing the above premium will please send 6 cents to pay postage.)

For TWO Subscribers and a One-cent stamp, we send the printed copy of the Apache contrast. For ONE Subscriber and a Two-cent stamp we will send the printed copy of Pueblo contrast.

Persons sending clubs must send all the names at once.

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