

# The Indian Helper.

A WEEKLY LETTER FROM  
THE CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL.

VOLUME VI.

CARLISLE, PA., FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1891.

NUMBER 27.

## HEAR THE GRASS SPEAK!

HERE I come, creeping, smiling every-  
where;  
All round the open door,  
Where sit the aged poor;  
Here where the children play,  
In the bright and sunny day,  
I come creeping, creeping everywhere.  
Here I come creeping, creeping everywhere;  
My humble song of praise  
Most joyfully I raise  
To him at whose command  
I beautify the land,  
Creeping, silently creeping everywhere.

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT INDIANS NEAR BY.

### THE NEW YORK TRIBES.

**Purporting to be by Delta Pierce, of the Seneca  
Tribe.**

There are in the State of New York seven reservations, they being tracts of land set apart by the Government of the United States for the use of the different tribes of Indians to live thereon.

But I will confine my subject to the two with which I am most familiar, viz., Cattaraugus and Alleghanies which are closely allied.

The former reservation contains about 36 and the latter 39 square miles.

They are situated thirty miles distant from each other in the southwestern part of the State.

The population of both is near 3,000 and consists of three Indian nations—the Seneca, the Onondaga and Cayuaga, which tribes are divided into clans.

The names of some of the clans are Bear, Wolf, Turtle, etc.

The children retain the name of the tribe and clan of the mother.

All the people of the same clan are said to be related to each other and are not allowed to inter-marry.

The Senecas have a Republic form of Government, and their officers are a president treasurer and clerk, and several peacemakers all chosen by the people and holding their offices only one year.

But there are other officers, such as overseers of the poor and police and marshal who are sometimes in office two or three years.

Their sessions are called councils, and are held alternately on the Cattaraugus and Alleghany reservations.

There are ten schools on the Cattaraugus and seven on the Alleghany.

In some of these, Indian teachers are employed.

One at Cattaraugus has been teaching successfully for a dozen years or more.

There is also on the reservation an Orphan Asylum, established as a home for destitute orphan children of any tribe in New York, and this is kept up by the State.

It is a large building situated on a farm and capable of accommodating over one hundred children of different ages and sizes from infants to those grown up almost to man and womanhood.

The boys as they are capable are taught to do all kinds of farm work.

The girls receive practical instruction in house-keeping and other employment.

All who are old enough attend school part of the time.

The institution is managed by trustees, six of whom are Indians and six white men, and it is under the care of necessary officers to conduct the affairs.

There is also a boarding school on the large farm adjoining the Alleghany reservation where forty pupils ranging from seven to twenty years of age are comfortably provided for.

Meetings for worship are regularly held twice a week.

On Sunday afternoon there are Scripture recitations and reading.

All the pupils are in school a certain number of hours each day.

Most of them can read, write and spell and there are classes in Mathematics, Geography, Grammar, United States History, Natural Science, Philosophy and Physiology.

When not in school the boys assist on the

(Continued on Fourth Page.)



# The Indian Helper.

PRINTED EVERY FRIDAY, AT THE INDIAN 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.

Price:—10 cents a year.

Address INDIAN HELPER, Carlisle, Pa.  
Miss M. Burgess, Manager.

Entered in the P. O. at Carlisle as second class mail matter.

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.

Miss Pierce, whose name is at the head of the article on first page, is a sister of Bemosis Pierce.

Seventeen of the prominent Sioux chiefs on card 8x10. Price 30 cents; or, it will be sent for club of 14 and three cents extra.

Richard and Nannie with their two little ones make a striking picture, which may be had for club of five and a one-cent stamp extra.

If you take the thought belonging to any one else and use it as your own, that is a mean kind of stealing. It is even more dishonorable than to steal money.

Twenty-five hundred Indians occupy the river banks for many miles below Yuma, Arizona, and it is reported that hundreds of them were drowned in the flood.

"Is the printing-office self-supporting?" is sometimes asked. By no means, neither is any other school-room. The paying results are shown in after life in the individual minds of the pupils.

Our Indian Territory pupils who know the Arkansas River learn through the papers that it is overflowing its banks and the people of Arkansas City are quite anxious about their property.

One of the girls in the country writes that she gets three cents for every rat she kills and one cent for every dozen of eggs she finds and is quite proud of the fact that she has made "fifty seven cents on her eggs and rats."

Don't be afraid to ask to buy candy. It is more honest than to ask to buy an umbrella and then spend the money for candy. A few pennies for candy occasionally would not be denied especially if the boy or girl has several dollars in bank.

At the Carlisle Indian School, is published monthly, an eight page quarto, of standard size, called **The Red Man**, the mechanical part of which is done entirely by Indian boys. This paper is valuable as a summary of information on Indian matters, and contains writings by Indian pupils, and local incidents of the school. Terms: Fifty cents a year, in advance.

For 1, 2, and 3 subscribers for **The Red Man**, we give the same premiums offered in Standing offer for the HELPER. Address, THE RED MAN, Carlisle, Pa.

## Notes from Farm Reports.

"We intend letting M—— continue going to school, as she is making excellent progress in her studies."

"We were called away from home one day last week and told him to go to school, he did not go but stayed at home and practised on the sewing machine."

"J——'s school report is very good. Marks for lessons have a fair average and compare favorably with most of the school, while for conduct he ranks among the highest."

Harvey Townsend tells the difference between his country (New Mexico) and Pennsylvania. He is attending the Albuquerque Government Indian School. He says, "How strange it is you said you went skating a week ago, while here we don't have any snow. We don't have any sleighing parties or go out coasting or skating, but we have sand-storms that you don't have in the East. Oh, sometimes I get so Eastern home sick that I don't know what to do with myself. The weather is very pleasant. I have been taking a horse-back ride. I am taking care of a horse for my teacher's sister. I have not seen anything of Bennie since he came back."

Our Dakota pupils will perhaps not be sorry they are out of the present blizzard prevailing in their country. A letter from Robt. American Horse says the chiefs arrived home in the midst of a terrible blizzard and now the papers give the news of another. All we can say while sheltered in steam-heated rooms and taking our three comfortable meals a day, is, "Poor suffering friends with not sufficient clothing to keep you warm, and not enough food, how we pity you!"

We were greatly surprised to receive a letter from Miss Ella Patterson from Sisseton Agency, Dak. She says to the chief-clerk: "The wise and far-seeing Man-on-the-band-stand no doubt, ere this has informed you of Miss Bessie's and my sudden flight into the icy regions of the Land of the Dakotas. Will you please turn the head of the HELPER this way and find twenty-five cents to speed its coming." Misses Ella and Bessie have been living in Washington for a year, since leaving Arizona.

John Walking Pipe, Cheyenne, who has been in delicate health ever since he came to Carlisle, some years ago, died of consumption at his farm home last week where he received the kindest attention possible during his illness. His health so improved after being with us awhile that it was thought a trial in the country would benefit him still further. Mr. Standing attended the funeral services.

A subscriber asks the M. O. T. B. S., "What is an Indian scout? What does he have to do? Is he a country policeman?" The Man-on-the-band-stand has a POUND OF CANDY ready for the boy or girl on the grounds who will give the best answer, not to be more than ONE HUNDRED WORDS long.

The Red Man will probably be mailed on Saturday.



Check,

Caution!

Coughs are getting better.

Watch out for wet shoes!

Nothing more dangerous than to sit quietly with damp shoes on our feet.

Good care of our bodies will generally keep us well and happy. Going out in the rain needlessly is not good care.

The Genoa Indian School has a King's Daughters' circle.

New stools, cups and saucers at the dining-room.

The boys are preparing for a contest of in-door sports.

The grass cries, "Keep your feet off of my head, please!"

The country fever is beginning to take hold in good shape.

One hundred and fifty boys go to the country the first of April.

"Thursday a week" is the day set for the in-door sport-contest.

La Grippe caught Miss Richenda and kept her confined to the house a day or two this week.

It only takes a club of fourteen to get the picture of the chiefs. Send three cents extra to pay postage.

"This stopping must be talked," said one of our teachers to her class, much to the amusement of all concerned.

These mild Spring days are the days when the silly girl goeth without her cloak and the foolish young man delighteth to display his handsome shirt-front.

Mr. J. B. Given must be getting better of his rheumatism for he writes from Poughkeepsie that he has not time up there to use his cane.

Mrs. Pratt was sent yesterday by the ladies' missionary society of the Presbyterian church as a delegate to attend a missionary meeting, at Greencastle up the valley.

The clerk in town who was asked by one of our New England teachers to show her some cotton cloth was non-plussed, and not until some one whispered "Muslin" in his ears did he know what was meant.

Miss Stafford again writes from Germantown to renew her subscription. She still has friends at the school, those who remember her as matron of the dining hall in years gone by.

The good news comes from Mr. Potter that he has received the appointment of superintendent of the Government Indian School at Ft. Totten, N. Dakota. He leaves Oklahoma for that region immediately, right in the face of the blizzard that is now prevailing in the northwest.

The following are the new officers elected by the Standards: President, Yamie Leeds; Vice-President, Harry Kohpay; Secretary, Albert Bishop; Treasurer, Jos. Hamilton; Reporter, Bertie Kennerly; Marshall, Richard Sanderville; Committee on arrangements, Levi Levering Stacy Matlack and Chas. Buck; Critics, Messrs. Goodyear and Claudy.

That poor bear again!

He with his master was out on Wednesday.

It is hard to tell which is the smarter of the two, the bear or the master.

The band in town sent forth sweet music Tuesday evening.

The girls are having account books made for each to keep her own account with the bank.

Spyna Devereau and Thos. Buchanan are No. 5, not No. 4. pupils as stated last week.

Nina is visiting Miss Irvine in town and thinks she is having just the best time in the world.

The girls have learned to fall in line as promptly as soldiers, and the M. O. T. B. S is proud of them.

The Endeavor Society girls had a good time in the gymnasium, Friday evening, roller-skating and exercising in various ways.

From the way the girls clapped Mr. Goodyear's rope-jumping, he either must have done it well, or looked very funny, which?

When the girls wish to buy something they now make the wish known on the same "want to buy" papers that the boys have used for several years.

One of the interesting visitors during the week was Mr. Jason Brown, of Pasadena, California, son of the noted John Brown. He was accompanied by Rev. Hector, a colored gentleman.

The pupils are getting the benefit of the lessons given in the cooking class. The girls cook only enough goodies for two or three tables, but in time will get all around while practicing in the all-important art.

We do not wish to see the pupils in No. 4. too puffed up with pride but we must give them the credit of excellent standing in the last spelling examination of fifty words. Ten of the number stood 10 and seven stood 9.

One of the enjoyable occasions of the season for Miss Clarke's pupils was a party given by their teacher last Friday evening in the sewing room. There were games, plenty of delicious refreshments and a general good time.

Malcolm Clarke who is confined to the hospital on account of a mangled toe received while working one of the printing-presses, shows his determination not to drop in his school-room grade by studying his lessons daily. He passed his examination satisfactorily, and the toe is speedily righting itself.

Pupils in No. 7 are working with a will in Arithmetic. The highest class have made an excellent beginning in division and the rest are doing well in the other rules in Common Fractions. On the blackboard we noticed the results of a drawing lesson, some pretty designs which might be suitable for patterns in oil-cloth.

Number 6 pupils are using items in their account books suggestive of the summer outing, which soon begins. A peep at the neatly kept accounts show on Dr. side amounts received for work done and for eggs, chickens, butter, and hogs sold, while the credit side of the account shows spades, rakes, garden-seeds, etc. bought.



(Continued From the First Page.)

farm besides having plenty of time for youthful sport.

The girls are taught in all branches of systematic house-keeping and those who incline to read have ample time to do so and have access to a good assortment of books.

There is a large play-room in which they spend their leisure time in innocent amusement.

This school was established and was supported by the society of Friends of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, who commenced their labor among the Indians in the year 1796.

There are some Indians on both reservations who still hold to the Indian religion, and many of their modes of worship seem singular but they are undoubtedly sincere in them.

They have three festivals during each year, called the Strawberry, Green Corn and New Year festival.

They have buildings for that purpose with seating capacity of some hundreds, warmed by a fire place at each end.

At these gatherings they dance and play games and partake of an appropriate repast which is prepared by some of the old women after which their great men make speeches in the native tongue.

They also hold a feast on the tenth day after the death of any of their party.

At this meeting they call together the relatives and friends of the deceased and after the feast dispose of clothing and other articles which were in the possession of those present as tokens of love and esteem.

This is followed by their form of religious worship.

But a great number of the Indians profess Christianity and there are several buildings in which religious services are held, some of them expensive and commodious structures capable of seating some hundreds of persons and are occupied by the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist congregations.

On the Cattaraugus reservation an agricultural exhibition is carried on each year.

It is twenty years since it was started and there have been many and great improvements.

The cattle which they exhibit annually are of good breed.

Many of the Indian women show as good bread, pies and cakes, etc., as their white neighbors can produce.

On account of the geographical position of these reservations the Cattaraugus Indians have better advantages for farming and are surrounded by the better class of white peo-

ple therefore they are more intelligent and enterprising.

The Alleghany reservation lies for thirty-nine miles along the border of the Alleghany River and averages half a mile in width on each side of the river.

It is surrounded by a lumber country which brings a poor class of white people, many of whom are of a low moral character, of whom the Indians obtain whiskey and tobacco, and who are in many ways a disadvantage to the race.

As a great amount of lumber is rafted on the river, in the Spring of each year some of the Indians engage in it for the sake of high wages and neglect their farming until it is too late to raise a good crop.

But all do not engage thus for many of them have good farms which are well cultivated and their homes will compare favorably with those of thrifty white people.

Many of the women are good cooks and keep their homes clean and in good order.

Many of them are also good nurses and seamstresses.

In summer time they have picnics and other like pastimes and in winter time they have sewing societies and New Years' Meetings, etc.

At this meeting a person who has been appointed announces the number of deaths that have occurred among them during the year, and which he has carefully noted down.

After this three men are appointed to distribute the New Years' cakes among the company.

Indians are seldom known to swear as there are no such words in their language.

#### ENIGMA.

I am made of 8 letters.

My 1, 4, 7, 6, 3 is what every Carlisle boy and girl belongs to.

My 2, 5, 8 is an abbreviation of title used before the names of members of Congress.

My whole is what we shall soon hear again, and we will be glad of the sound.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ENIGMA: Hammer away, gentlemen.

**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  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$  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 apiece.

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 premiums will please send 5 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.