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THE INDIAN HELPER

A WEEKLY LETTER
—FROM THE—
Indian Industrial School, Carlisle, Pa.

VOL. VII.

—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1891—

NO. 15.

CHRISTMAS.

RING, merry bells,
Bring forth your sweetest chime,
To welcome in
The joyous Christmas time!
That time of times—
The gladdest to the glad;
That time of times,
The saddest to the sad.

A LITTLE BOY'S SERMON.

On last Saturday evening, after an entertainment given by the pupils in honor of General Morgan, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, who was present, there was a general hand-shaking and free exchange of greetings with the Commissioner. In the line that passed before the General was the Man-on-the-band-stand's chief clerk, and when she approached, General Morgan said, 'Oh! I have a scrap for the little paper.' The Man-on-the-band-stand, although in his usual place of abode, was observed to smile, while the Commissioner brought out from a sacred nook in the corner of his generous looking pocket-book a slip containing the following pretty little story:

Two little boys were playing together.

"Eddie," said Harry, "I'll be a minister and preach you a sermon."

"All right," said Eddie, "I'll be the people."

Harry began: "My text is a short and easy one—'Be kind.' There are some texts in the Bible on purpose for little children, and this is one of them. There are a great many heads to my sermon.

"First. Be kind to papa, and don't make a noise when he has a headache. I don't believe, Eddie, you know what a headache is, but I do. I had it once, and I didn't want any one to speak a word, and if I heard a noise the pain was dreadful."

"Second. Be kind to mamma, and don't make her tell you to do a thing more than once. Think how tired she must get saying, 'It is

time for you to go to bed, half a dozen times over."

"Third. Be kind to baby."

"You have leaved out 'Be kind to Harry.'" interrupted Eddie.

"Yes," said Harry, "but you will be kind to me if you are kind to all the others, because you will forget to be unkind. I was saying to be kind to baby, and lend her your red soldier when she wants it."

"Fourth. Be kind to Jane, and don't kick and scream when she washes you."

Here Eddie looked a little ashamed, and said, "But she pulls my hair with the comb."

"People mustn't talk in meeting," said Harry.

"Fifth. Be kind to kitty. Do what will make her purr, and not what will make her cry."

"O Harry," cried Eddie, with tears in his eyes, "don't preach any more," 'cause I will always be kind now."—*Christian Advocate.*

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS.

The Indian, before he becomes educated, knows but little about Christmas and the rejoicing of this season of the year. The customs observed in the olden times, and still in vogue in some sections of the country are quite as full of superstition as are some of the rites and ceremonies observed by the verriest Indians of to-day. The following little history, taken from an exchange, can but prove interesting to Indians as well as others:

In our custom of decorating our houses with evergreens, we see a relic of the ancient faith in the power of the returning sun to again clothe the earth with grass and bring leaves on the trees.

The Christian religion has been unable to eradicate these old customs, it has only covered them and associated them with the rejoicing of the season.

(Continued on fourth page.)

THE INDIAN HELPER.

PRINTED EVERY FRIDAY,

—AT THE—

Indian Industrial School, Carlisle, Pa.,

BY INDIAN 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.

La Grippe has reached Bucks County.

"MERRY, merry Christmas everywhere! Cheerily it ringeth through the air."

Harlow Miller who left Carlisle three years ago is at Haskell, and from a business letter received from him we judge he is doing well.

No HELPER holiday week. Next week's HELPER will be delayed two days. We do this to get in Christmas notes before they get stale.

Four Menominees, two girls and two boys, and four Stockbridges, two girls and two boys, eight in all, have been added to the school this week. We now have a few over 800 pupils.

The Commissioner had with him his private secretary, Mr. Cotterill, who anticipated an enjoyable time in his visit west, it being his first. Mr. Cotterill seemed much interested in Carlisle's great work.

There is to be a meeting of Indian School Superintendents held at Lawrence, Kansas, on the 23rd. inst. Commissioner Morgan was on his way to said meeting when he stopped with us Sunday. Capt. Pratt expects to be in attendance and will probably leave to-morrow night for the west.

The Committee to decide who is to get the FIVE DOLLARS for Thanksgiving Offer meets to-day and the name of the winner will be printed in next week's HELPER which will not be mailed till Saturday and Monday. This will enable us to get in some Christmas notes. There will be no HELPER published Holiday week.

The quickest way for a boy or girl to make a DOLLAR is to sell ten "Stiyas." EVERY BODY wants to know what the educated girl has to meet at home. Ten thousand have read the pathetic story of Stiya, which is a thrilling account true to life. Other thousands will be interested if brought before them. Send for agents' terms. Address HELPER.

Miss Bessie Dixon, former cook at the club and now resident of Plainfield, N. J., sends some subscriptions and writes a very appreciative letter about our work and the opportunities we are giving the Indians. Taking into account that Miss Bessie learned to read when in slavery from letters printed on dry-goods boxes, and now to see how well she expresses herself, in well-shapen words, one can but know that she certainly has made the best use of her opportunities.

It goes pretty hard on the young man who makes a mistake in the balance on his "Want to buy" paper to be deprived of the amount asked for that month, but it is right. If you cannot make a neat request and you can't count your money right, you do not deserve to have any. Even the lowest grade of adults come in on this rule and it is a good one. Due allowance is of course made for the grade of pupil.

We are getting a valuable lot of exchanges from the Indian field in the west. Such papers as the *Tahlequah Indian Arrow*, *Guthrie News*, *The Montanian*, *El Reno Eagle*, *Norman Transcript*, *Oklahoma Democrat*, *The Indian Citizen*, *The Cherokee Advocate*, the *Muscogee Phoenix*, and others are received and placed in our Reading Room, where they are read with interest by the pupils.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs intended stopping at Chicago, on his way to Lawrence, to confer with Miss Fletcher and Prof. Putnam in regard to the Indian exhibit at the Columbian Exposition. He also will visit the Sac and Fox agency, Iowa, and go on to conduct an educational meeting in the southwestern part of Kansas, before he returns to Washington.

Mr. J. R. Armstrong, of the Benedict College, S. C., sends the HELPER to five little Indian boys as a Christmas present and says, "The copy you have so kindly sent has been shared with and enjoyed by our pupils here, proving itself to be an African as well as Indian helper. May Santa Claus fill not only your stockings but also your shoes."

The Sisseton Sioux are foolishly spending their money for fine clothing, fine horses and carriages and other things which they see people of wealth using, and keeping their children from school. We feel sorry for these short sighted people, for the day is very near when they will be poverty stricken and suffering for the bare necessities of life.

In every shop that Miss Rankin visited on her farewell round Wednesday, the boys gave her a most hearty welcome and said their "good-byes" in the most genial manner, showing the best of feeling toward their newly made friend. She also had something particular and cordial to say to each individual as she passed.

The sash which was blown from the skylight over Mr. Reighter's shop and fell cornerwise to the floor startling the workers nearly out of their senses might have resulted seriously had a boy been sitting a few inches further to the left of where he was. As it was no one was hurt.

Boo!
Chilly?
Steam is coming.
A cold wave is upon us.
Sharpen up your skates!

The Fair, Monday night, boys!

It snowed two cents worth, yesterday morning.

John Moses plays the piano at the Y. M. C. A. meetings.

Mr. H. A. Kennerly, of Piegan Agency, Montana, father of Ber^o and Perry, is visiting the school.

The new automatic traps to operate the return water from the radiators will help matters along, it is hoped.

On Wednesday, Mr. Goodyear and a detail of boys went to the mountains for Christmas greens, and had the usual jolly time.

Mr. Eli Moon, of Nanticoke, Pa., head of the Order of Foresters, in Pennsylvania, visited the school last Saturday.

Some of the Christmas money asked for on the "Want to buys" this week no doubt is intended for the girls' FAIR to come off Monday night.

Only FIVE boys in the small boys' quarters made mistakes in their balances this week as shown on their "Want to buys", and EVERY paper was perfectly neat.

Three girls and three boys from the Nez Perce Agency arrived this week. They came as far as Chicago with Miss Fletcher and the balance of the way alone.

When the small boys can't get marbles to play with they take hickory nuts. When they are not allowed a foot-ball, they make one out of old rags. This is pluck.

King's Daughters Fair Monday night! Every cent of the money made goes for some benevolent purpose to help along some needy people worse off than we are.

Frank Compeau is down for the second time with a broken collarbone. Frank will learn afterwhile perhaps that rough tussling is not the safest thing in the world.

Oto Wells has returned from his home at the Kiowa and Comanche Agency, Indian Territory, where he went last summer. His friends gave him a warm welcome.

The little pupils of 13 and 14 are doing very pretty work with their kindergarten designs. The panel-doors are striking, and other designs show taste and ingenuity to be proud of in our little ones.

Albert White Wolf was seriously hurt by a falling ladder blown down by Wednesday's storm. It was a narrow escape from instantaneous death. The Dr. has hopes of his recovery. He is suffering from slight concussion of the brain.

Mr. Campbell returned from Topeka, Kansas, where he found three of our boys who went off without permission. While in that vicinity Mr. Campbell visited the Haskell Institute, Lawrence, and had many interesting things to tell us about that thriving school. He found a number of old Carlisle pupils there, and some were holding positions of trust.

The Indian club part of the exhibition last Saturday night, executed by Harry Kohpay, Morgan Toprock, Jonas Place, Felix Iron Eagle Feather, and Stally Norcross was beautiful.

A message from Grand Forks, S. Dak., says that a delegation of Blackfeet Indians are on their way to Washington, and Mr. Kennerly who is here says they intend visiting Carlisle before they return.

Mr. G. A. Lyon, Jr., of the *Evening Star*, Washington, D. C., was among the visitors this week. Mr. Lyon seemed thoroughly alive to the interest of our work, as he passed from one department to the other.

General Morgan, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was with us over Sunday. Some points in his excellent address to our pupils on Saturday will be given in the coming *Red Man* which is delayed till the close of the month to catch the Christmas news.

On Saturday evening Capt. Pratt gave a six o'clock luncheon to twenty of the most prominent gentlemen of Carlisle, in honor of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs who arrived about that time. Mrs. Pratt presided at the table and a very enjoyable hour was spent.

Capt. Pratt left for Philadelphia yesterday morning to attend by invitation of its honored President, J. A. McAllister, the dedication of the great Drexel Art, Scientific and Industrial Institute. Chaucey M. Depew is to deliver the oration and such dignitaries as Bishop Potter and others will be present on the platform.

The scaffolding so long in the chapel while Mr. Elmer was doing the frescoing has been removed and it now seems as though we were transported to realms beyond the skies when we enter the spacious room. The main color has a bluish tint and the designs on the ceiling, with a sky appearance around the electric-light produce a most charming effect.

Miss Rankin left, on Wednesday, for her home at Jamaica, L. I., she having given to Carlisle six weeks of faithful, hard, energetic and thorough drill in elocution. While with us, Miss Rankin made many friends among teachers, officers and pupils, and leaves us with a heart full of interest in the work to which she has become attached.

Bruce will now have to take a back seat. Little Richard Henry Pratt Doanmoe has come to live with us. Master Doanmoe is the son of Carlisle's beloved Etahdleuh Doanmoe who died a few years since at his home in the Indian Territory. Richard is a bright little boy, and while too young to go on the school roll will be given the tenderest of care and become the pet of all.

One of the hardest places to work on these grounds is in the boiler room. The great heating apparatus stands there like a tremendous human heart sending out steam to all parts of the grounds, (when it gets there) like the heart does the blood to the uttermost ends of the body. Messrs. Forney and Norris shovel coal into the hungry mouths of the boilers, on the same principle that we take in to our mouths, potatoes, meat and bread to keep the blood circulating

(Continued from first page.)

In the north countries, where there was so much superstition connected with the celebration, there were many curious customs observed.

The yule-fire was kindled with great ceremony and rejoicing, and lighted with a brand which had been preserved from the yule-fire of the year before.

Candles of unusual size were lighted, and the foaming yule beer were brought in, and about seven or eight o'clock hot cakes freshly baked were passed around, with the beer in the ancient horns and tumblers.

There were also sacrifices offered at this season, human sacrifices being offered to Odin, or Wodin.

The sacrifice offered to Frey, the earth-god, was a hog.

The yule cake is baked in the form of a hog, even now, and is kept until spring, when it is given to the cattle with which the plowing and other farm work is done, the farmers mingle it with their food, so that all may be strong and healthy.

The ashes of the yule-log scattered over the fields are believed to bring fruitful crops.

Many had their beds made of yule straw, wisps from which, woven into hen's nests, will make the hens lay, and keep away the witches.

If two enemies slept together on a yule-bed, they would be reconciled to each other, and they would become the best of friends.

Y. M. C. A. Union Meeting.

Yesterday afternoon a joint meeting of the Carlisle, Dickinson College and Indian school Y. M. C. Associations was held at the Indian School. It was largely attended and was very interesting to those present.

The meeting was led by Dr. C. R. Dixon, resident physician of the school, who opened the service by reading a scriptural selection. Secretary Fought, of the Carlisle Association, led in prayer and Indian Commissioner Morgan, who was present, made a very interesting address in regard to the good work accomplished by these organizations.

The remainder of the programme consisted of music and prayer.

Charles Dagenette, the president of the Indian School Association, will leave to-night for Southern Kansas, where he thinks his health may be benefited by the climate. The members of the association all express their sincere regret at his departure, but hope he may soon be restored to health. He has been attending the Dickinson preparatory.—*Carlisle Herald*, Dec. 14th.

In the darkest hour through which a human soul can pass, whatever else is doubtful, this at least is certain: if there be no God and no future state, yet even then it is better to be generous than selfish, better to be chaste than licentious, better to be true than false, better to be brave than to be a coward.—*F. W. Robertson*.

Character is like white paper: if once blotted, it can hardly ever be made to appear as white as before.

Look out for the man who is always boasting of his own goodness.

We often pay the most for what we need the least.

He who begins many things finishes but few.

Enigma.

I am made of 15 letters:

My 12, 6, 5, 14, 4 is what some people do when asleep.

My 15, 13, 8 is what some people do when awake.

My 3, 11, 7, 8 are small animals despised by most ladies.

My 10, 9, 2, 12 is what we must have to live.

My 11, 1, 5 is what boys like to see plenty of in winter.

My whole is what Capt. Pratt believes is the greatest of all helps in Indian civilization.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ENIGMA: Examinations.

STANDING OFFER.

Premiums will be forwarded free to persons sending subscriptions for the *INDIAN HELPER*, as follows:

1. For one subscription and a 2-cent stamp extra, a printed copy of the Pueblo photo, advertised below in paragraph 5.

2. For two subscriptions and a 1-cent stamp extra, the printed copy of Apache cost art, the origin 1 photo, of which, composing two groups on separate cards, (8x10), may be had by sending 30 subscriptions, and 5 cents extra.

(This is the most singular photograph we have ever had taken, as it shows such a decided contrast between a group of Apaches as they arrived and the same pupils four months later.)

3. For five subscriptions and a 1-cent stamp extra, a group of the 17 Indian printer boys. Name and tribe of each given. Or, pretty faced pappoose in Indian cradle. Or, Richard Davis and family.

4. For seven subscriptions and a 2-cent stamp extra, a boudoir combination showing all our prominent buildings.

5. For ten subscriptions and a 2-cent stamp extra, two photographs, one showing a group of Pueblos as they arrived in their Indian dress and a other of the same pupils, three years after, showing marked and interesting contrast. Or a contrast of a Navajo boy as he arrived and a few years after.

6. For fifteen subscriptions and 5 cents extra, a group of the whole school (9x14), faces show distinctly. Or, 8x10 photo, of Indian baseball club. Or, 8x10 photo, of graduating classes, choice of '89, '90, '91. Or, 8x10 photo, of Inlidi gs.

7. For forty subscriptions and 7-cents extra, a copy of "Stiya, returned Carlisle Indian girl at home."

Without accompanying extra for postage, premiums will not be sent.

For **The Red Man**, an 8 page periodical containing a summary of all Indian news and selections from the best writers upon the subject, address RED MAN, Carlisle Pa. Terms, fifty cents a year of twelve numbers. The same premium is given for ONE subscription and accompanying extra for postage as is offered for five names for the *HELPER*.