

THE INDIAN HELPER

A WEEKLY LETTER

—FROM THE—
Indian Industrial School, Carlisle, Pa.

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—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1893.—

NO. 52

THE MAN-ON-THE-BAND-STAND HAS AN INTERVIEW WITH A LIVE MISSIONARY.

The Misses Ballew and Reeside are two self-sacrificing young women now working as Baptist missionaries among the Kiowa Indian women and children of Oklahoma.

Women's effort for the uplifting of the women of a poor benighted race should arouse great interest and sympathy, and for this reason the story of these brave workers proves more impressive than the tale of the ordinary missionary.

Miss Reeside has been visiting the Carlisle school this past week, and infused her enthusiasm into the minds and hearts of our pupils through two very interesting talks Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Her field of labor in the Southwest is the old stamping ground of some of Carlisle's earliest workers.

It was on the Kiowa and Comanche reservation about 23 years ago that our Superintendent, Capt. Pratt, while serving with his regiment, performed military duty for the Government, and with the Indian scouts assisted in quieting the unrest of that section occasioned by various Indian raids upon settlers in Texas and elsewhere on the border, and upon emigrant trains.

At the close of the campaign of '74 and '75 he was detailed as an Army officer to take 75 of the most desperate Indian characters in chains to Florida, from the younger portion of whom the nucleus of Carlisle School was formed in 1879.

And it was two decades ago while travelling in company with the same Tenth Cavalry over those Southwestern plains, when buffalo were so abundant that sometime the march would be impeded that Mrs. Pratt, with four other officers' wives first set foot in that perilous frontier post, Ft. Sill, then known as Camp Wichita.

It was in that field that our Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Standing, first began his labors among the Indians more than 20 years ago, going in the camps and living with those people when it was considered dangerous for a white man to trespass the border of their villages. Mr. Standing started the first Kiowa school, to which Indian boys and girls were sent.

It was at the Kiowa and Comanche Agency, that our Mrs. Given with her husband, (Carlisle's beloved Dr. Given, who sacrificed his life in the Indian service at our school a few years since,) lived during those same troublous times of Indian depredations and misunderstandings between whites and Indians.

Some of our best material as students has come from that agency and some are still with us, so that Miss Reeside at Carlisle fell among friends who were eager to hear the stories of the work she and her companion are doing and the progress those Indians are making in the upward road.

"Have you a school there?" asked the Man-on-the-band-stand.

"No," she replied, "our work is in the camps. We think our field larger and influence greater in the home camp life than in the school-room."

"Are you welcome in the camps?"

"We are now. At first the women would look at us strangely, and the children would run and hide in the bushes, under blankets or wherever they could find a place out of sight."

"How did you win their confidence?"

"Oh, by speaking kindly to the women and showing them by our actions that we meant to do them no harm. We have an interpreter who explains what we want."

"And in that way the children gradually lost their fear too, I suppose."

"Yes, now the little children in groups run joyously to meet us and want to shake hands with us, and the women kindly provide a tent

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

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Do not hesitate to take the HELPER from the Post Office, for if you have not paid for it, some one else has. It is paid for in advance.

Dont talk of what to do—DO IT!

The sparrows are hunting winter quarters.

"A DIME in the pocket will buy more groceries than a DOLLAR somebody owes you."

The women judges at Chicago are much interested in a highly educated and decidedly handsome Indian in the Anthropological building who talks about the "uncivilized whites."

In a private letter from Miss Reeside which came since the interview on first page was in type she says, "My visit to Carlisle will always be a pleasant and blessed memory to me, and as my heart is so deeply interested in the Indian race I am become one of Carlisle's many champions, and consider that no praise can be too high for the institution."

Miss Ely has received the sad intelligence that her brother Timothy, of Hatboro, is suffering from a badly sprained ankle, a gash in the head and other injuries received from a run-away team. The wheel ran off his wagon which upset and threw him out, but with characteristic Ely pluck he held to the reins and the horses did not get away from him.

The Indian School at Carlisle, Pa., has an exhibit that surprises many. The specimens in the cases cover many fields of industrial activity, while the excellence of the work turned out should be a source of decided gratification. The writings and photographs also tell a good deal. Wagons and harness are among the products of the institution which the young Indians are proud of.—[Phila. Press.

A letter from Miss Caryl shows her very happily situated in Hope School, S. Dakota, though her inquiries about boys and girls in her school here, show that she still carries them in her heart. We take the liberty of giving to our readers her pen picture of the country.

"The Missouri in this state runs between bluffs some of which are, I should think, one hundred feet high. In some places these

bluffs rise perpendicularly from a narrow sandy and shingly beach, but here and there are ravines and paths. From the top of the bluffs one can see a long distance up and down the river, and across to the high land on the other side, where the only houses to be seen are those of the Congregational mission school. From the ravine near our school are some most beautiful views of the river. One day when I had gone down the ravine to the river I walked along the beach to the next low ravine. There I was surprised to hear and then to see water rushing down the ravine to the river. I wondered where, in such a dry country, such a flood of water could come from. I learned afterwards that it was the water from an artesian well, which is used to turn a mill. Another artesian well in the town, is sending out its water in a great stream into a ditch while the people take their time at laying some pipes for it. I never before realized the meaning of the Biblical saying "The waters under the earth."

† It has been discovered that Miss Shields of Carlisle won the second prize for obtaining subscriptions, as per last prize offer, instead of Samuel Dion as reported last week by error of count. One letter of hers containing 12 names failed to receive the proper credit. While ashamed of such a blunder we are gratified to be able to rectify it and to give to the proper person the well deserved prize. Samuel comes in for third.

Through a New England paper we gain the intelligence of the death of Miss Lucy Sparhawk, a sister of Miss Frances Sparhawk so well known by friends of the Indian. A visit of Miss Lucy to her sister while with us a few years since is well remembered by the few here now who were then present at the school, and these friends extend a heartfelt sympathy to the sister left to mourn the loss of so faithful a companion.

STANDING OFFER.

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

2. For two subscriptions and a 1-cent stamp extra, the printed copy of Apache contrast, the original photo, of which, composing two groups on separate cards, (8x10), may be had by sending 30 subscriptions, and 5 cents extra. Cash price 60 cents for the two.

(This is the most popular 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, Rickard Davis and family. Or, cabinet photo, of Piegan Chiefs. Cash price 20 cents each.

4. For seven subscriptions and a 2-cent stamp extra, a bondoir combination showing all our prominent buildings. Cash price 25 cents.

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 another of the same pupils, three years after, showing marked and interesting contrast. Or a contrast of a Navajo boy on arrival and a few years after. Cash Price 20 cents each.

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 '89, '90, '91, '92, '93. Or, 8x10 photo of buildings. Cash price 60 cents for school, 30 cents for 8x10's.

8. For five and seven subscriptions respectively, and 5 cts extra for postage, we make a gift of the 6½x8½ and 8x10 photos, of the Carlisle School exhibit in the line of march at the Bi-centennial in Phila. Cash price 20 and 25 cents.

9. For fifteen subscriptions and eight cents extra for postage, a 12½x16 group photo of 8 Piegan chiefs in elaborate Indian dress. This is the highest price premium in Standing Offer and sold for 75cts. retail. The same picture lacking 2 faces Bondoir-size for 7 subscription, and 2 cents extra. Cash 25 cents.

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

Oh my!

Such a happy time!

Friends meet again

On Wednesday and Thursday;

After a summer's separation!

Three hundred and forty strong

Came in from country homes!

One hundred and twenty-three girls!

Two hundred and seventeen big and little boys!

All look well and happy; dressed in good clothes and money in bank,

Besides having gained invaluable experience; all the result of their summer's work.

Half of the band played sacred music at an entertainment given in the Second Church on Wednesday evening.

The incoming rush of farmers makes our mailers perspire, as the address of each has to be changed upon the galley.

Result of last election for Sunday School officers: Superintendent, Prof. Bakeless; Assistant-Superintendent, Dr. Montezuma; Treasurer, Miss Luckenbach; Secretary, Levi StCyr; Assistant Secretary, David Abraham.

Ida Warren has returned from Philadelphia where she has been taking a course of millinery in Wanamaker's store. After graduation this winter, she purposes going back and finishing the course. Then what? Why she will be a first class milliner.

Mr. Edward Marsden has returned from a little tour among the mountains of western Pennsylvania, and brings with him some expensive astronomical slides loaned by a friend. He will use them this evening to illustrate a lecture on astronomy. The slides are of the moveable kind and were made in Europe.

The talks given by the teachers at the opening exercises of school upon the World's Fair are still progressing. On Tuesday and Wednesday Miss Weist and Mr. Marshall held forth, the former described the Art Gallery and some of its famous paintings, while the latter made interesting points concerning the State buildings.

The arrangements of girls in the quarters and into companies will vary a little this year from formerly. The companies have risen to the dignity of having 1st and 2nd sergeants and corporals, where formerly they had but one sergeant and corporal, and the officers are to have more responsibility than formerly in the care and management of their respective companies.

Capt. Pratt and Miss Nana are now doing the Fair, but do not expect to remain long enough to see everything. Captain returns to Carlisle tomorrow or the fore part of the week, after completing some business he is mixing with pleasure while there, and Miss Nana goes on to St. Louis to visit her aunt, Mrs. Allen for a time. She also is looking forward to a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Stevick who reside in Denver. Miss Nana in speaking of the Fair by private letter evinces the delight that every one experiences. She says: "Of course we are having a perfectly glorious time. I feel at a perfect loss for words when I wish to give a suggestion of what the Fair is like. I can only say that the much you have heard of it will not prepare you for the beauty and wonder of it all."

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ENIGMA: Down to business.

Two new arrivals from New Mexico have entered as pupils.

A break-down to the ensilage wagon occurred on Wednesday, all for the want of a little oil on the axle, it is said.

Minnie Perrine writes from Montana that she feels lonely without her "weekly letter from Carlisle" and encloses ten cents for the same.

Adjutant Wm. Denomie, has returned to the case after a summer's outing with what he terms a most excellent family. He looks benefitted by the change.

We shall be glad when the prospective Electric Car line is finished; not that we do not all prefer walking to riding to town for the sake of the exercise and the saving of horse flesh, but then there are times when one's feet are clad in patent-leather, paper-soled shoes, that it would be such a gratification to be able to save them five cents worth, don't ch'ew know?

For once, some of our young gentlemen no doubt were wishing that the Carlisle school owned no four-horse coach. Didn't it rain when the girls from country homes arrived at the station, and could not they who were so fortunate as to possess umbrellas have each escorted a young lady home under his, as once upon a time before they were most happily requested to do? But that contemptible coach! Why didn't it break down?

We all remember Mr. Ressler, who taught in No. 4 at the close of last term of school. Recently at his home in Lancaster Co. and on his 26th birthday, a new-born babe came to live with him and his good wife. In commemoration of the event he sent several glasses of fine Ressler honey to friends at the school. What more appropriate present could be thought of to celebrate such a joyous occasion!

WORLD'S FAIR NOTES FROM CHAUNCEY YELLOW ROBE: I saw Captain and Miss Nana on Saturday morning. The Captain looked over the exhibit but did not say anything about it. The Fair has full attendance every day and I have many questions to answer at the exhibit. The other day a visitor asked if it were a Chinese exhibit and whether the wagon was made by a Chinese. He soon learned by looking around that every thing was Indian make. One of the comic scenes on Midway this week was a wedding procession in the streets of Cairo. The camels and donkeys made a funny sight as they moved along. An Angel has come to live with us in Miss Folsom's family. Angel Decora, a Winnebago girl, who is attending Smith College. She makes a new and interesting element in the household. Mr. Edwin Bender, of Philadelphia, called last Wednesday at the exhibit. He is the father of our Miss Bender. Mr. J. B. Given called last Thursday. The Misses Cook, sisters of our former teacher Miss Mary H. Cook, of Washington has been to see the exhibit and Rev. Dr. Brown, of Kansas, surprised me on Friday last by walking in upon the exhibit. He is looking very well and is as active as ever.

Continued From First Page.

for us and spread their blankets and shawls and place their cushions for us to sit upon."

"Does your work consist chiefly in Bible reading and religious instruction?"

"We always begin with that. In the first place we take out our Bible pictures, many of which are bright-colored and attractive. These we tack upon trees or the tent, and talk about them, through the interpreter. After half an hour of such talk and singing and prayer we resolve the company into a sewing school."

"What do you sew?"

"The Indian women learn to make garments for themselves and clothing for their children."

"Are they willing then to adopt the dress of the white women?"

"No, not entirely so. They are glad to make and wear the civilized undergarments, but they prefer the comfortably loose sack and skirt to the white ladies' tight basque."

"I don't blame them for that," replied the Man-on-the-band-stand.

"The children," continued Miss Reeside, "take readily to the dress of the white child, and their mothers are proud indeed of them when attired in the civilized clothing they have made for them. The Indian women also make many patch-work quilts, and oftentimes not having enough quilting frames we improvise frames of tepee poles which answer the purpose nicely. Sometimes ten women at once, some with babies strapped upon their backs, may be seen around the quilts sewing. This presents a most attractive picture, and their eagerness to learn gives us hope and courage."

"Where do they get the material to thus make up?"

"Well, we generally give them all that they will make and wear."

"Does this have a good effect?"

"It does, indeed. The change of heart and spirit brought about in this way among those women and the sweet content they manifest when once settled in the new and better road is truly marvelous."

"But are they not a selfish people?"

"At first, selfishness is one of the greatest difficulties to overcome. They do not seem willing to do a hand's turn to help a suffering sister or one in need, but we have taught them to have faith in the Bible and that it says 'Help one another,' so that already we see a very hopeful change in this respect. There is one woman the wife of a prominent chief who was the first to take up the new road, and she seems never so content and happy as when she is helping us or working to get other women of her race interested. She will cook all day long or sew or do anything to induce her sisters to come to the meetings. Many have learned to believe in the Word and it is pitiful to hear them wish that they could read and write so that they could get the good words from the Book direct and not have to depend upon an interpreter."

"And so you think that the women who can read are happier than the others?"

"I certainly do. O, your girls here should appreciate the advantages that Carlisle is giv-

ing them. It is so very important that the women of the tribe be educated, and your girls have every chance to learn. It is a great pity when they do not see this and are careless about learning their lessons."

"When they take up the new road, do they discard the old ways, altogether?"

"They make a great effort to. You know it was quite the custom for the women when husband, child, or relative was lost by death to manifest their grief by cutting off a finger or gashing the flesh and torturing themselves in various ways. Those who can become Christians do this no more. We have taught them that God who gave them their bodies never meant that they should disfigure them in that way."

"Do these good women sometimes go back to old ways again?"

"Seldom. One of our women had not been heard from for several weeks. We were fearful that she had gone back perhaps to her old heathenish ways of living, when a man came riding up to our door one day and gave us an account of what she was doing. She had gone off to a distant camp and was telling the things she had learned about the pictures to her people. She had worn out a complete set of the pictures and now wanted another so that she need not stop her good work."

"Are the Indians uniformly kind to you?"

"They are. Our ponies not being securely fastened one night, strayed away, and I have received letters saying that the Indians are so anxious not to lose Miss Ballew's instructions that they go in their own teams for her in the morning and take her back to her home at night. Not long since the prairie around our home took fire. We heard the roar of the wild flames fanned by a fierce wind in its maddening rush down the ravine toward us. It looked as though we should surely perish, there being no escape, but the Indians came galloping on their foaming ponies for our relief. They fought the flames until their skins were scorched and faces blackened, and just at the point when it seemed as though the house must go, the wind as by a mighty force veered and we were saved."

"Do the Indian men become as interested in your work as the women do?"

"They show us all respect. Poor Buffalo recently said, 'I am an old man. I have seen many changes in my tribe and many new things have come to pass, but never before did I see white women with kind hearts come to us and be willing to do as you are doing, mingle with our Indian sisters to help them. I was like a wild horse in my younger days, but as a rope thrown around the neck of a wild horse, drawn tighter and tighter is sure to catch him, so the light brought into our camp by you good women, is drawing me tighter and tighter until I am caught and I begin to see the light.'"

There were others beside the Man-on-the-band stand who had gathered to hear this last recital by Miss Reeside, and her appeal to the Carlisle boys and girls to get all the light they can possibly while the opportunity is theirs was strong and pathetic. "And," said she, as a last word, "Let your light shine before men" when you get it, remembering the Bible injunction "Be ye thankful."