

# THE INDIAN HELPER

A WEEKLY LETTER

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

VOL. IX.

—FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1894.—

NO. 28

**I**F boys should get discouraged  
At lessons or at work,  
And say, "There's no use trying,"  
And all hard tasks should shirk,  
And keep on shirking, shirking,  
Till the boy becomes a man,  
I wonder what the world would do  
To carry out its plan?

The coward in the conflict  
Gives up at first defeat;  
If once repulsed, his courage  
Lies shattered at his feet.  
The brave heart wins the battle,  
Because, through thick and thin,  
He'll not give up as conquered,  
He fights, and fights to win.

—[*American Youth.*]

## WHY NOT HAVE INDIAN PAGES?

The Band and Choir of our school expect to give a concert in Washington on Monday night next.

While in Washington the Indian boys and girls will of course visit the Senate and House if opportunity offers.

They will there see little white boys waiting upon the Senators and Congressmen, much as our business little office orderlies wait upon those in charge of the various offices at the school.

As it affords a good opportunity for a little Indian boy to learn business ways, when he is orderly, so does the little white boy who is appointed to wait upon a Senator or Representative, have an excellent chance to learn the business of the Government.

These boys are called pages.

No boy can be appointed a page of the Senate who is not twelve years of age; and no boy can continue as page who is sixteen years of age at the beginning of the session of Congress. It is a lucrative position, and the boys are sorry when their term has ended.

Usually four of the boys who are graduated from the page's position at the beginning of a session are appointed riding pages. Their selection depends on their records for efficiency and faithfulness.

The page on the floor of the Senate draws \$2:50 per day during the session of Congress.

The riding page receives \$2:50 per day the year round and a horse to ride. His duties keep him out of doors a great part of the time, carrying messages between the Capitol and the other departments.

The position is considered more desirable than that of a page. Speaking of their work the *Washington Star* says: "The page's life is a pleasant one. He must be on duty at nine o'clock each morning, but the serious business of the day does not begin till noon, when the Senate meets. Before that time he arranges the files of the *Congressional Record* and the bill and reports on the desks of the Senators who have been assigned to him. There are sixteen pages and eighty-eight Senators, so none of the pages have very much to do.

The morning hours are not all working hours. There is a gymnasium in the basement of the Capitol furnished especially for their use.

They exercise their arms and their chests there every morning; their legs get plenty of exercise through the day.

The friends of Miss Mather are greatly grieved to learn of her illness at her home in St. Augustine, Fla. She has not been well for some time and does not rally as fast as she and her friends had hoped. It will be remembered how closely Miss Mather is tied to Carlisle interests. It was she who headed a list of kindly ladies in St. Augustine, to help Capt. Pratt in teaching Cheyenne, Kiowa, and Comanche prisoners of war under his charge in 1875. It was Miss Mather who went with Capt. Pratt to Dakota in 1879, to get the first party of pupils for Carlisle, and who gratuitously served him in the starting of the then wild boys and girls of the plains in the ways of school and education. We remember the energy with which she did things, and how in passing through a school room, if the pupils seemed a little dull she would take the place of teacher for a few moments and do vigorous work in half pantomime to illustrate the lesson, and then with what burst of enthusiasm even the dullards would recite after her in concert catching the exaggerated pitch and inflection to a nicety that was amusing, but which filled all hearts with the spirit that makes things move. No one is more sorry than her Carlisle friends that Miss Mather is in feeble health, and that she may be restored to live many more years can but be the wish of all who know her.

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# THE INDIAN HELPER

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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.

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Pay day, Saturday.

Mr. Robert McFadden is with us for a brief visit.

Mrs. Geo. Kelly, of Hillside, is visiting the school.

Irene was one of the extra helpers this week and she did help, too.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ENIGMA: In good country homes.

A party of young ladies from Wilson College visited the school on Wednesday.

A party of ninety boys went to country homes for the summer, on Saturday.

Dr. Wetherill of the State Board of Charities was among the visitors on Tuesday.

Mrs. Bakeless has returned from a little sojourn at her home out on the Penna. Central.

Misses Wiest and Cochran spent Sunday at their respective homes, not very distant.

When good fortune goes to hunt for a man it doesn't go looking through beer saloons for him.

Johnnie Given is laid up for a day or two by an accident from a fall while coming home from school.

Albert Hensley has drawn a very creditable crayon portrait of Capt. Pratt, and presented it to Captain this week.

Mr. Campbell is in the Osage country, Oklahoma, to bring back a party of pupils who wished to come to Carlisle.

Fred Wilson has been promoted from the printing Office to clerical work in Capt. Pratt's office. We congratulate him on the change and wish him every success.

Dahnola Jessan of the Southern Cherokees has entered the printing office and shows himself to be a good little typo, having worked eight months in a Southern printing office.

Mrs. Williams who has been visiting her sister Miss Jamison at the school left for her home on Monday. Mrs. Breece, of South Carolina, another sister is with her.

Time for arbutus.

We are not a letter this week, only a postal card, and a day late at that.

Stailey Norcross has gone to his home at Ft. Defiance, to take a position in the Government School at that place. He will be in charge of the tailor-shop. Stailey did not graduate but no doubt will do good work as a tailor.

The little boys and girls of No. 13 and 14 turned in to help fold and wrap papers this week. They had a great many thousand to wrap and did it in a very business-like way. The Man-on-the-band-stand is always proud of his little business Indian boys and girls.

Miss Luckenbach has returned from her Montana trip, full of stories of a Montana blizzard in which she was delayed 48 hours, and other interesting western experiences to say nothing of hair-breadth escapes. She claims to have had a very pleasant time, however.

A pleasant letter from Miss Eva Johnson, now teaching at Baxter Springs, speaks of her brother Arthur's return from his Carlisle visit. Her school has been quite large this winter but Spring weather and occupations keep the pupils out and the average attendance is not so great. She says she is leading "a quiet, every-day sort of a life. Have my 'ups' and 'downs' like any other school marm has, I guess, Tho' I sometimes think there are more 'downs' than 'ups' in it." Artie Smith is attending school there and is doing well in her studies."

A half-sheet, or nothing, this week! A hundred and twenty-thousand and more extra impressions, all made in the interest of Indian education has caused the necessity of cutting our readers down to a half-sheet, with the promise of a supplement in the near future of a photo-print. The steam presses have run day and night and the printing-office force taxed to the utmost to give our readers even this much. The Man-on-the-band-stand could not think of keeping silent for two whole weeks, as at one time he feared he would be obliged to, and so sends this "POSTAL CARD" as it were to let our friends see that we are still alive and prospering. We do not ask pardon for remissness, as the supplement we shall give will be worth twice as much as the minus half sheet of this week.

The Standard Sociable on last Friday night was a complete success. At the entrance of the gymnasium in the circular transom over the door was the word Standard and the year 1894, in illuminated letters. Passing the second door the scene surpassed anything of a "sociable" order that we have yet beheld. It was the Standards' turn to collect the pennies for a laudable purpose, and it is astonishing how many little ways they devised to catch them. The centre of the hall was occupied by an ice-cream parlor consisting of a frame work trimmed with blue streamers and lace curtains which the boys had taken from their room windows. These were draped in fanciful shapes, giving a light and airy interior effect, most appropriate for ice-cream. Everything else was in keeping and the Standards deserve great credit for furnishing such an enjoyable evening to all.