

# THE INDIAN HELPER

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

VOL. XII

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1897.

NO. 22.

## BIRDS IN SPRING.

**L**ISTEN! What a sudden rustle  
Fills the air!  
All the birds are in a bustle  
Everywhere.

Such a ceaseless croon and twitter  
Overhead!  
Such a flash of wings that glitter  
Wide outspread!

Far away I hear a drumming—  
Tap, tap, tap!  
Can the woodpecker be coming  
After sap?

What does all this haste and hurry  
Mean, I pray—  
All this out-door flush and flurry  
Seem to-day?

This presaging stir and humming,  
Thrill and call?  
**MEAN!** It means that spring is coming,  
That is all!

## ANSWERS TO THE PROBABLE QUESTIONS OF THE COMMENCEMENT VISITOR

How many pupils have you?  
503.

As many girls as boys?

No. There are 341 girls and 462 boys. The whole number of pupils under the care of Carlisle for some portion of the year was 898.

Where do your pupils mostly come from?

From the western tribes.

Which tribes?

There are 61 tribes in all represented at the school, the most prominent of which are Apache, Arapahoe, Cheyenne, Chippewa, Crow, Nez Perce, Omaha, Oneida, Pueblo, Sac & Fox, Sioux, Winnebago, Piegan, Pima.

What does it cost to run the school?

In the neighborhood of \$100,000 a year.

Who pays it?

The United States Government.

How much for each pupil does it cost?

The estimate is on a basis of \$167 for each pupil, but by the last annual report it will be seen that the per capita cost was only a little

over 141 dollars, which includes the cost of transporting children to and from their homes, new buildings, repairs and improvements of all kinds.

Is not that a smaller sum than other schools use?

Yes, and the economy to the Government is the result of our Outing System.

To what extent is the Outing System used?

213 students remained out last Fall and attended public school during the winter and had the continuous benefit of family life.

Do more go out in summer than in winter?

Yes. During the vacation months of July and August 506 were out last year, which is about the number that go out every year, some years more go.

What wages do they earn?

The total earnings last year amounted to \$19 238 62.

Do the girls earn money as well as the boys?

Certainly. Of the amount stated above the girls earned \$6,480.60 and the boys the balance or \$12,758 02.

Are they inclined to save?

They are encouraged to do so by every possible means, but there are the same differences as among the young of any race. Some save others spend.

About how much do they save generally?

From their last year's earnings, the boys saved \$5,561.19 and the girls \$3,037.29, a total of \$8,598.48.

How about the English speaking of the school. We hear no Indian spoken.

The use of English is made compulsory. By the system we use of placing three together from different tribes, in the same room, and the sending of pupils out to English speaking families and such other means as we can command, the mind and tongue become English through habit.

Do you class the industrial training of equal importance with the literary?

Next to the learning of English well enough to use in ordinary business relations, the industrial training takes first rank in the Carlisle school curriculum. To this end the shops are made as practicable as possible.



# THE INDIAN HELPER

PRINTED EVERY FRIDAY

—AT THE—

*Indian Industrial School, Carlisle, Pa.,*  
**BY INDIAN BOYS.**

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

PRICE:—10 CENTS A YEAR.

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

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

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

Before I forget it, let me reduce to writing  
what was said at the dining hall, Wednesday  
evening, the 3rd instant, concerning a  
lesson we are to learn from the postage stamp.

I suppose that every one of you, except the  
small children, has written a letter to some  
friend or relative.

Now in sending such a letter, you fold it  
then you inclose it in an envelope, seal  
and address the envelope, and last of all you  
pay a certain amount of postage on it, and  
the Government does the rest.

You remember that I emphasized some-  
what forcibly that we as students ought to  
be like postage stamps.

Yes: but how?

**STICK TO ONE THING UNTIL WE GET THERE!**

Just as the postage stamp sticks to a letter,  
carries it through certain channels and over  
and around the roads and hills, clear to its  
proper destination, far and near, so are we in  
regard to our lessons.

Capt Pratt supplemented my short speech  
very well, by saying that the letters upon  
which the postage stamp is posted, should be  
first properly addressed before it is mailed.

In other words, an intention must first be  
formed before one sticks to it.

The intentions being formed and carefully  
considered at the start, paste yourself to it un-  
til you get there.

Two of the reasons why students, and men  
and women at large as well, have successful  
careers are, that they have good intentions  
when they enter their work, and that they  
persevere when they are started.

Intention a well laid plan, a fixed purpose,  
a noble idea and a sound principle, on the one  
hand, and perseverance, a firm grasp, an ever  
diligent and faithful performance of a particu-  
lar duty or duties, on the other. These are the  
requisites for a successful career.

One of Napoleon's engineers said to him  
that it would be impossible for the French  
army to cross the Alps at a certain time. To  
this the great general "The Man of the  
World," as Emerson calls him, answered:

"Impossible? There is no such a word as  
impossible!"

And Napoleon marched his army, hauled  
his heavy cannons,—the army and all—over  
the Alps and came off conqueror.

EDWARD MARSDON.

Commencement week began on Sunday  
with a strong and eloquent baccalaureate  
sermon, rich in useful lessons for the out-  
going class, by the Rev. Mr. Wile, of the  
First Lutheran Church of Carlisle. A num-  
ber of visitors were out from town and oc-  
cupied the front seats, while the graduating  
class was in the seats usually given to the  
choir. The latter was on the stand or gallery  
erected in the back part of the room for the  
use of the band. The Choir sang "Jerusa-  
lem," in which Linnie Thompson took the  
leading part.

The text of the sermon was taken from  
Genesis 13: 11—"Then Lot chose him all the  
plain of Jordan." The speaker brought out  
the thought that to us is left the choice to de-  
cide what our life shall be, and yet many con-  
demn God because he has left with us such a  
great responsibility. All through life till we  
have ended the battle with sin we are deciding  
what our life shall be and with us God has  
placed the responsibility. He urged the class  
to bear in mind the folly and the loss of a  
choice made without taking God into consid-  
eration. And he would have them keep near  
that Power and in fellowship with God.

A full synopsis of the grand sermon will be  
given with the rest of the Commencement  
proceedings in the March RED MAN.

It really did seem that inauguration day  
was made on purpose for the occasion, so per-  
fect was the weather. The Carlisle contin-  
gent breakfasted at two o'clock in the morn-  
ing, boarded a train before three, arrived in  
Washington about 8 o'clock, visited Smith-  
sonian and other places of interest, marched  
several hours and left Washington about seven  
o'clock in the evening arriving at Carlisle  
at one o'clock, making a long day for the par-  
ticipants. But it was a most enjoyable day,  
from beginning to end and the boys were not  
so tired as they expected to be. The next day,  
after a few hours of extra rest, they went to  
their duties as though nothing had happened.  
The Indians in the parade attracted a great  
deal of attention along the line, and received  
much praise for their fine marching and the  
unique character of their exhibition. Some of  
the comments from the papers will be printed  
in the March RED MAN.

"The most impressive feature of the civic  
parade was furnished by the Indians from the  
Government School at Carlisle. The band  
was composed of Indians, and it was excel-  
lent. The Indian cadets marched in a soldierly  
way that showed careful drilling. Each man  
of the company carried on the muzzle of his  
gun some article which the pupils at Carlisle  
had made or some of the tools most frequently  
used by them."—[N. Y. Sun.]

As the Indian boys from Carlisle passed,  
they received round after round of applause,  
making a unique picture with models of their  
various vocations and marching with a pre-  
cision that would have done credit to many of  
their older companions in arms.—[Wash. Post]

As the boys were coming in last Friday  
morning at one o'clock, the first thing that  
awakened the Man-on-the-band stand was  
some one calling "Who beat?" That used to  
be the question when the footballers returned.



A delegation from Washington is expected as we go to press.

84 boys and girls have come in from the country to attend Commencement Exercises.

Antonio Apache student of Exter Academy, New Hampshire, is with us for Commencement.

Next week, the present Juniors will become Seniors, and there will be promotions all along the line.

And the next day (after inauguration) it not only rained but snow and slush was ankle deep.

Governor Hastings and staff, and the Legislature of Pennsylvania will be in attendance at the Commencement exercises.

Mrs Isabel Spencer Freeland of Philadelphia, prominent as a parlor lecturer on classical, historical and literary topics, is here.

The Art exhibit in Assembly Hall is a special feature of the school display, this year. Miss Forster has brought results from the pupils that are gratifying.

No people are more welcome at Carlisle at Commencement or any other time than the farm fathers and mothers of our Indian boys, 83 of whom are expected this year.

Mr. Ramsey, of the Electric Light Plant, is around these evenings giving careful inspection to all the lights to see that nothing goes wrong at a time when the best results are needed.

General and Mrs. Eaton, and Mrs. Beller, of Washington, D. C., Mrs. Newton of Marietta, Ohio, Mrs. Cornelius R. Agnew and Miss Annie, wife and daughter of the late Dr. Agnew of New York, arrived on Tuesday.

The following officers were elected to serve in the Young Men's Christian Association for the ensuing year: President, Thomas Marshall; Vice-President, George Wolfe; Corresponding Secretary, Leander Gansworth; Recording Secretary, Caleb Sickles; Treasurer, Vincent Nantush.

Amid many difficulties the singing of the choir and school has been brought up to its present status this year. To Miss Senseney, who has demonstrated ability of the first order in the short time she has had the singing in charge great credit is due for untiring effort to bring out the best results.

The Sloyd room will be a place of special interest to visitors. The busy little workers in wood, all dressed in work aprons and handling tools in a manner that shows heart and head work as well as hand, always attracts. Miss Ericson of Finland, understands her work and knows how to attain best results.

A young boy, son of a prominent chief of the Northwest, who came to us seventeen years ago, and remained but two years and a half, but in that time picked up enough English and experience to enable him to support himself entirely since his return to his people, writes these encouraging words in a letter full of gratitude to Carlisle. He says: "I assure you I don't forget who I owe for the little education I have and who taught me to stand up for the right, and live as a civilized person should. I have stood faithfully by that which I have thought to be the right,

facing my own savage people, and do my best to help them in the right way of civilization. My two and a half years of schooling has been worth a great deal. It has earned for me an independent livelihood having had different positions since I came back, and earning for myself at all times a good living. I have always felt thankful to Capt. Pratt and yourself (the boy's teacher) for learning me to speak English and the better habits of the white man, otherwise I suppose I would now be where my people are." The author of the letter is now a married man and has children. He is respected as an honest, trustworthy person, as we have taken pains to inquire, since the letter was received.

The weather is clearing beautifully.

A. J. Martinez, ex-pupil, is at Penasco, New Mexico.

Joseph A. Morrison, ex-pupil, is interpreting for the Chippewa Indian Commission, so he writes.

Rev. W. W. Soule, Methodist Missionary among the Oneidas of Wisconsin, is a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Dennison Wheelock.

Quite a large number of strangers have already arrived on Wednesday, at the present writing. Names of all will appear in a complete list next week.

Mr. Harner, a cousin of Miss Bowersox who is teaching in Snyder county, stopped on his way to Baltimore to see her and visit the school. He was much interested in all that he saw and took with him material about the Indians to interest his pupils.

A long and interesting letter from Susie McDougall, class '95, written to a friend at Carlisle shows what a deep interest she takes in the work she is in, that of teaching among the Indians of Minnesota. Susie was among the faithful at Carlisle, and if she does her part as well where she is as when here, none can complain.

Miss Cutter should be the proudest of the proud each Commencement Day as she looks upon the manly young men and the womanly young women in her classes to whom she has given the finishing touches of their literary education at Carlisle, and yet no doubt she really feels more sad than proud as each class passes out into paths leading to, we know not where. Nine graduating classes, all that Carlisle has turned out, from class '89 up to and including the class of '97, Miss Cutter has given the last teaching, and the 153 graduates of the school owe to Miss Cutter a debt of gratitude which they no doubt fully realize.

The lecture by General John Eaton, on Tuesday night in Assembly Hall, was a rare treat, and was listened to by a large audience consisting of the best people of Carlisle, the school literary societies and others. The discourse was upon "My Personal Memories of Lincoln and Grant," and was full of incident and wonderful experiences which had never been given to the public. It was intensely interesting from start to finish, and it can but be esteemed a privilege of a life time to thus come in touch with two such great personalities through one so intimate with them, as was General Eaton.





GROUP OF NAVAJO PUPILS, FROM ARIZONA, AS THEY ENTERED CARLISLE, SOME YEARS AGO.

"Do they come looking like that now-a-days?" asked a Commencement visitor.

"No, not often," replied the person interviewed, "although groups of boys and girls similar to the above in appearance may be found on almost all of the reservations, even in these days."

"I'd like to see a party dressed in their blankets and ornaments," continued the visitor as she stood looking at the photograph of a delegation of fantastically dressed chiefs who visited the school not long since. "They look immensely more picturesque."

"We do not deal with the picturesque Indian especially. You may see him in the wild west show. Only the rising young Indian claims the special attention of our Carlisle effort."

"If many on the reservation still dress as the above picture represents, I am puzzled to know how they come to you in civilized dress."

"That is easy enough to explain. Since Carlisle started, over seventeen years ago, the number of schools among Indians has greatly increased. Most of the children of school age have attended some sort of a school or made a pretense of attending, and have learned to dress accordingly, but if a boy goes back to his camp after being in school, he very frequently lays his school clothes aside and puts on the camp costume, and then when he starts to school again, he has his school clothing in readiness; and so, if a boy from camp applies to one of our agents out there for admission to Carlisle, and at the time is dressed in blanket and leggings, on the morning of departure he is likely to turn up dressed in coat, trousers, shirt and hat. Even though he has never been to school, and possesses no school clothing of his own this is very likely to be the case."

"How funny! Do you suppose they are ashamed of their dress? Is that the reason they wish to change?"

"Oh no, the Indian is not ashamed of the Indian when he is among Indians, but whether educated or not the Indian is an exceedingly sensitive person, and the boys and girls in camp having been told, no doubt, by returned pupils, how they are gazed at by curious

people along the way of travel, if dressed as Indians, provide against such annoyance by clothing themselves as civilized people dress."

"Are there many reservation schools?"

"Yes, the Government has spent vast sums of money in erecting reservation schools in the past decade, just as though Indian schools among Indians do not keep the Indians Indian. How can it be otherwise? French schools in a French community keep the French French, don't they? Italian schools in an Italian community keep the Italians Italian, and what greater truth was ever uttered than the statement so often made at Carlisle that Indian schools in an Indian community keep the Indians Indian. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE between the home school and the one in the heart of civilization is the ENVIRONMENT. Carlisle, with all her splendid corps of teachers and excellent equipment removed to an Indian community, with the high civilization now surrounding us shut out, would be an absolute failure."

For a good look into our work-shops, school-rooms and other buildings, secure the souvenir. It contains 60 views, which give a very good idea of what the Indians in the largest Government school are doing. Price, 25 cents. Free, for ten subscriptions and two cents extra for postage.

#### Enigma.

I am made of 10 letters.

My 8, 2, 4, 10 is to go out.

My 7, 6, 1, 5 is to come together.

My 7, 4, 9, 3, 8 is a kind of pie much enjoyed by some.

My whole is what class '97 is no doubt experiencing at the present writing.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ENIGMA: Winter Sports.