

# THE INDIAN HELPER

A WEEKLY LETTER

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

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## MARCH.

**M**ARCH, a merry, bolsterous chap,  
Round the corners whistling  
Shakes the windows with a rap,  
Make the school-boy chase his cap,  
Sets the strawstacks bustling  
Fills the air with whirling snow,  
Sends the sleet storm stinging,  
Scatters clouds that hover low,  
Wakes the meadow-larks and so  
Fills the air with singing.

### THE CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT FOR 1898.

That the Nineteenth Anniversary and Tenth Graduating Exercises of this school were held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week; that the occasion was marked by the presence of statesmen from Washington and other distinguished visitors from a distance; that 24 graduates received diplomas, and that the event was successful from every point of view, has been widely published, but it would not be seemly if our weekly letter did not give at least a brief synopsis of the proceedings as seen through our own eyes.

On Tuesday, the morning opened bright and auspicious, the sky was cloudless, the air snappy and exhilarating, and every one was in the best of spirits, sure that the weather was going to be all that could be desired. Tuesday's sun set clear, and the evening was gorgeous in moonlight, partly in consequence of which Rev. Dr. Spining, of Orange, N. J. who lectured on "Abraham Lincoln," before the Societies in the Assembly Hall, was greeted with a large audience of Carlisle's representative people, besides a good number of our most intelligent pupils. The lecture was considered by all who heard it a rare treat, Dr. Spining handling his subject in a manner unique and thrilling with eloquence.

On Wednesday morning the wind blew cold and raw from the East, and weather indications were portentous. Before noon the air was full of snow, and the soft, white flakes covered the earth to a depth of several inches

before night-fall, but the people who were to come by special trains from Washington, Philadelphia and New York were not kept away, so that the calisthenic drill and industries in the afternoon were largely attended, but without the crowd of former years.

To add to the comfort of our visitors from a distance and to give them a better chance than heretofore to examine the work and calisthenic drill, our guests from town were invited to witness the drill on Monday evening, while all day Tuesday the shops were open for their special inspection, many people not having visited the school for a long time taking advantage of the beautiful day.

While the snow storm of Wednesday made it disagreeable passing from building to building, the feathery whiteness covered over the defects of our winter campus, and gave to the scene a purity and freshness which was thoroughly appreciated by all who desired the school to look its best.

By evening the storm had ended and long before 7:30, the hour named for the Wednesday evening meeting, every incoming trolley was packed, while the walk to town was black with people on their way to the school. It is estimated that 3,000 people assembled to hear the speaking and music, and the exercises were intensely interesting throughout.

Capt. Pratt announced the occasion as a "sort of class meeting" and a gathering in the interest of the Indians, hence he felt that it would be especially appropriate for Rev. Sherman Coolidge, a missionary of the Episcopal Church among the Northern Arapahoes of Wyoming to make the opening address.

Rev. Mr. Coolidge is an Indian of commanding presence, large of stature, and bore an intelligent countenance as he spoke with the ease and eloquence befitting his calling.

He told how he was taken as a boy to New York City and was brought up and educated in American civilization, exemplifying by his discourse and demeanor that the education

# The Indian Helper

PRINTED EVERY FRIDAY

—AT THE—

Indian Industrial School

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BY INDIAN BOYS.

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Miss Marianna Burgess, Manager.

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.

Alex. Upshaw, '97, has gone home to the Crow Agency, Montana, to become Industrial Teacher in the Government school at that point.

Don't forget the Ten Dollar song prize! Let every student and ex-student of Carlisle Indian School try for the prize! For full particulars address J. Wheelock, chairman committee.

The question is asked by a subscriber in Philadelphia: On what days is the school opened to visitors? requesting a reply through the HELPER. This is a Government School and we are open every day to visitors, except on Sundays.

The Carlisle Indian School Alumni Organized an association last Friday morning, electing Dennison Wheelock, president. There were 45 in attendance and the meeting was of great interest throughout. Letters from graduates were read and enjoyed. It was agreed that the proceedings be published in pamphlet form, which will be out in due season.

The Indian is patriotic. A dispatch dated Black River Falls, Wis., Mar. 3, says: Warriors of the Winnebago tribe, headed by "Green Cloud," the famous scout, tender their services in case a declaration of war is the outgrowth of the pending inquiry over the disaster to the battleship Maine. Chief "White Buffalo" will communicate with the war department at once. He says 200 of the young men of his tribe would be ready in ten hours to start for the front. This is the first manifestation of patriotism in this section of the state.

There is a Sioux girl living in a family not far distant, who proved herself so womanly and brave during Commencement week that she deserves mention. She no doubt wanted to come to Commencement, as she was invited, and would be a guest of the school, but when she found that the father and mother of the household could not well come if she did, she willingly volunteered to stay at home and take care of the children, and the Man-on-the-band stand is proud of her.

What is mind? No matter. What is matter? Never mind.

What was going on in the Bachelor's Hall on Monday night? Why, the bachelors were rejoicing because one of their number had passed another mile stone in his life. Mr Cayou was — years old on that evening, and had invited the other bachelors into his room to partake of some "goodies" and to share with him his good fortune.

Brewster Gallup's eye and a baseball thrown by one of the boys came into accidental collision the other day, resulting in more of an injury to the eye than to the ball, in consequence of which Master Brewster was in bed for a few hours longer than most boys of his age like. He is now out and around, but the injured eye is hidden out of sight by a square patch.

Miss Mellor, of Unalaska, the extreme end of the Western Continent, writes that she and her sister arrived there in September. That Christmas was celebrated with fitting exercises, is evidenced by an artistic, type-written and mimeographed programme with hand sketched cover, just received. The exercises were held in the chapel of the Home, a picture of which is on the sketch on the cover.

Our Ninety-eighters have thus disposed of themselves, to date: Nellie O'Dell, Annie George, Ellen Thomas, Cora Cornelius, Edythe Pierce and Lottie Horne, have gone out to work for themselves in country homes, the pride of all who are interested in them. Those who turned their faces homeward, are Wilson Welch, Jacob Jameson, Frank James, Martha Sickles, David McFarland, Caleb Sickles, Mitchel Barada, Kamie Owl, Rienzi Moore and John Webster. The latter intended to stop in Chicago or Milwaukee to hunt for work. Edward Peterson has his mind on Harvard and has gone to Boston. Clarence Butler is visiting in Philadelphia. Annie Morton is employed on a salary in Miss Ely's office, and is valued for her faithfulness and efficiency. Ralph Armstrong, Sarah Flynn, Joseph Blackbear, Lillian Complainville, Susie Henn, are still with us, awaiting developments, all worthy young people, ready for the first good step that leads onward and upward.

The following boys and girls came in from their country homes to attend Commencement. They paid their own way and were guests at the school for the time:

Mattie Parker, Mary Wolfe, Susan Gibbs, Sava Awatum, Wanada Parker, Lydia Clute, Nettie Pierce, Augusta Nash, Mary Bear, Anice Sikeeh, Mabel Navadokieh, Carrie Cornelius, Clara Miller, Addie Wise, Henrietta Coates, Tawny Owl, Minnie Nick, Laura Eagle, Lettie Scott, Pliga Nash, Libbie Archiquette, Ella Smith, Naomi Kohten, Annie Kowuni, Lizzie Hill, Emma Anderson, Lillie Archiquette, Lizzie Williams, Elizabeth La Prairie, Mollie Elmore, Mary Williams, Edith Smith, Lottie Hilton, Lucy Schanandore, Elizabeth Walker, Bessie Gotholda, James Green, Ross Hornbuckle, Wm. Larch, Jos. Cloud, Ainsley Fox, Alphonso Eclista, Jessie Davis, James Russell, Mark Wolfe, Thos. Kenoi, John Miller, Arthur Andrew, Casper Alfred, Edward Hoag, John Blanchard, Perry Tmawa, Paul Smith, Lossil Bigjim, Wm. Ratley, John Robbins, John Dillon, Mitchell Paul, Benedict Jozhe.

Linus Pierce is telegraphing at the Reading Station in town.

A large force of men have begun work in earnest on the new Athletic field.

Rev. Sherman Coolidge, of Wyoming addressed the school last Sunday afternoon at the close of Mr. Wile's sermon.

Our old time friends, General and Mrs. Whittlesey, were among the distinguished visitors from Washington.

Andrew Knife hands in an occasional subscription for friends at a distance, thus keeping up their interest in the school.

Our friend Mr. George Vaux, Jr., of Philadelphia, had with him the Misses Brockway, from England, last week when here.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Hon. W. A. Jones and Mrs. Jones, were among the most interested of our Commencement visitors.

William F. Campbell, Esq., class '89, now of White Earth, Minn., was the only Alumnus from a distance to attend Commencement. He is looking remarkably well.

Miss Tonner, the daughter of the Assistant Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and Miss Cummins, his secretary, were here with the Washington party.

In addition to Dr. Duncan, of Metlakatla and Rev. Sherman Coolidge of Wyoming, Missionary work among the Indians was represented at our Commencement by the Rev. Mr. Clark, of Rosebud Agency, S Dakota.

Master Dick and Miss Sarah Pratt, with their papa and mamma, Mr. and Mrs. Mason Pratt, of Steelton, were among the Commencement visitors. Dick's chief criticism was that the speeches were a trifle long on Wednesday evening.

We could hardly have a Commencement without the genial and helpful presence of General and Mrs. Eaton. The General never seems to tire of pouring out information about our methods and work, and we never tire of being gratified for the same.

Mrs. C. R. Agnew and daughter, Miss Edith Agnew, of New York, esteemed personal friends of Capt. and Mrs. Pratt, came on Monday before Commencement and remained a week, bringing kindly cheer and solid encouragement at a critical and trying time.

There were a number of press correspondents present besides those mentioned elsewhere, among others, Mrs. Elaine Goodale Eastman, of literary note, Mr. Rockwood of the St. Louis Republic, Miss Ina C Emery, whose short magazine articles delight the readers of Munsey, McClure, The Nickle, etc. and Miss Wilbur, representing the Washington Post.

The school was honored at Commencement with the presence of the Chairman of the House Indian Committee, Hon. James S. Sherman, of New York, and other members of the House Committee, as follows: Hon. J. F. Lacey, of Iowa, Hon. J. H. Stephens, of Texas, Hon. C. B. Landis, of Indiana, Hon. F. M. Eddy, of Minnesota, Hon. H. B. Packer, of Pennsylvania, and Hon. W. T. Zenor, of Indiana. Mrs. Landis, Mrs. Eddy and Mrs. Zenor accompanied their husbands.

Judge Joseph K. McCammon and Mr. and Miss McCammon, of Washington, were here with the party from the Capital city last week.

Among the Commencement guests from New York were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph La-rocque, who have aided the Captain most substantially from time to time, ever since the days he met them in Florida, when he was there in charge of the Kiowa, Comanche, Cheyenne and Arapahoe prisoners of war, from which nucleus the Carlisle School sprang.

Notable Indians present last week, not mentioned elsewhere, were Mrs. Jamison, wife of the President of Seneca Nation, N. Y., Mr. Hoag, Treasurer of same and Mrs. Hoag, Mr. Frank Seneca, Councillor, Mrs. Hattie E. Poodry, Versailles, N. Y., Miss Pierce, N. Y., Mr. Ainsworth, Washington Delegate from the Choctaw Nation, Ind. Ter., Mr. Connor and Chief Bigheart, of the Osage Tribe, Ind. Ter. The latter was dressed in Indian garb.

Dr. John Bancroft Devins, Managing Editor of the New York Observer, and Mrs. Devins; Judge and Mrs. Ashman, Dr. and Mrs. Lippincott, Dr. Alice Seabrook and Mrs. Odin Edwards, of Philadelphia, President Shrigeley of the Williamson School, Mrs. and Miss Shrigeley; Dr. and Edward H. Bigelow, of Mass.; Captain G. W. H. Stouch, Acting Indian Agent, Crow Agency, Montana, and Mrs. Stouch were among the Commencement visitors besides those mentioned elsewhere.

Hundreds of orders have been taken for the March "Red Man" on account of the Commencement news it will contain. That we may know how many to print, send in your requests at once! There was demand for last Commencement number long after the issue was exhausted. Better order several copies. The Red Man is a good argument in favor of Indian education, to distribute among people who need to be enlightened, especially the coming number with its class-picture supplement on fine paper.

Miss M. R. Hyde, of Brooklyn, who, in 1879, was here at the beginning of Carlisle, and whose able management arranged and systematized our home for Indian girls, and who for several years stood in the place of a loving mother to them, was an honored guest at Commencement. She saw great changes and large growth in the school, and frequently remarked upon the same. Among those who were co-workers with her in those days, and are still here, besides Capt. and Mrs. Pratt, are Mr. and Mrs. Standing, Mrs. Given, Misses Cutter, Carter, Noble, Campbell, Ely and Burgess.

There were over 200 guests from a distance, who were cared for on the school grounds during the Commencement occasion, not counting the 69 country students who came in. The patrons who have had Indian boys and girls in their families were nearly all quartered in the front part of the girl's quarters, the regular occupants moving back three and four in a room, and some sleeping in the halls. Most of the teachers and officers vacated their rooms, and were given less commodious but comfortable apartments. We are glad to crowd for one or two nights, that those who come to study our methods and results may be made comfortable.

out and away from the tribe ennobles, enlarges and fits for usefulness.

President Jamison, of the Seneca Indians of New York, was next introduced by Captain Pratt. He said that he was interested in educating the Indian people, and he was proud of the fact that more than 100 students from his agency were receiving the Carlisle training. There is greater necessity today than ever before for the preparation which fits a man to manage his affairs intelligently and successfully.

Hon. John H. Stephens, of Texas, a member of the Indian Committee of the House of Representatives, who represents a district which twenty-five years ago, when Capt. Pratt was in the Southwest detailed by the War Department to help drive the Indians out of Texas, was a barren plain over which the Kiowa and Comanche Indians roamed, murdering, stealing and carrying into captivity women and children from the towns on the border. "But that is all changed," said Mr. Stephens. "Today those Indians are ready for citizenship and are living in houses such as the white people occupy."

He felt that the people of the United States were to be congratulated on the fact that they have a Carlisle School, and when the speaker said he would rather be the President and head of a great institution like this, its originator, its designer, than to be the President of the United States, there was loud applause.

Rev. Mr. Duncan, father of the Metlakatla Colony in Alaska, then spoke feelingly and earnestly to the student body. His missionary experiences, wherein many times his life was in danger, were listened to with rapt attention. His advice to the young Indians before him to be careful of their future, to always look on High for strength and light, was well received.

Then Honorable Frank M. Eddy, of Minnesota, and of the House Indian Committee, spoke with stirring eloquence and truth. Mr. Eddy represents a district with perhaps as large an Indian population as any other district in the United States.

He began quietly but warmed into serious and eloquent earnestness, and his audience warmed with him. "I have seen Indian children," he said, "taken from almost a state of savagery, and brought here to Carlisle, and in a few years, I have seen them return educated, trained, and able to compete with any race." He had noted with pleasure the course of the football team last year, "OUR football team," he said "as we call it up on the reservation," and there was a deafening roar of applause from the Dickinson College students present as well as from the Indian student body.

Mr. Eddy expressed congratulations for the work that is being done here, he congratulated the Commissioner of Indian Affairs who was on the platform, and who is interested in us; the Indian Committee upon the fact that it had made liberal appropriation for Carlisle and the Chairman of the Committee, Hon. Jas. S. Sherman of New York, who, he says, ever watches our interests with a jealous eye. He

congratulated the House and Senate Committee for standing by the House Committee, in their provision for Carlisle; he did not forget our Superintendent, our teachers and officers and lastly congratulated himself for the opportunity afforded him of speaking before as intelligent and interested an audience as he had ever had the honor of addressing.

Then Capt. Pratt called upon Edward Marsden, of Alaska, as one of the best representatives of the Carlisle idea in the United States. "He came a long way for an education, he has fought bravely for it, through college, through a law course, and a theological course, and "I could not enumerate all the other things he has learned," said the Captain. "He is a printer, a musician, a genius."

Mr. Marsden is a natural orator; he is master of the quiet eloquence which wins. He made a marked impression, and his address has been frequently alluded to as one of the best of the evening.

Chas. B. Landis, of Indiana, a member of the Committee of Indian Affairs, followed. Capt. Pratt spoke of his coming from the same town as he did, thus making it a peculiar pleasure to present him to the audience.

Mr. Landis could not remember in his entire experience an occasion so fraught with interest for himself. He said he did not believe that the President of the United States knew what we have at Carlisle, or he would not have accepted an invitation to go to Philadelphia and let Carlisle pass. This was answered with hearty applause from the audience. He assured his hearers that "never in the future as long as I am a member of the Lower branch of the National Legislature will I sit still in my seat and permit any member of that body to rise and say that the education of the Indian is a failure. It is NOT a failure." He asked the school, girls and all, to give three cheers for the flag, and they responded so heartily that they were encoored, and had to repeat it.

The Standard quartette here sang a pretty selection which was encoored. Then Hon. J. F. Lacey, of Iowa, member of the Indian Committee addressed the audience. He had visited the school but a little while before, had seen us in our every day attire, and was greatly pleased. He proved by his strong and able words that he was a true friend of the school and would again defend our reputation as he had in the past, if necessity demanded.

The Chairman of the Indian Committee, Hon. James S. Sherman, here requested that a college song by the Dickinson boys be given, to which they responded with spirit, ending with the Dickinson yell, our boys taking up the refrain in their well known—"Hello! Hellee! Who are we? Hello! Hellee! Who are we? Hello! Hellee! Who are we? Indians, Carlisle!"

The last speaker of the evening was Dr. Spining, whose remarks were full of anecdote much enjoyed.

For all of these speeches, for the proceedings of Thursday, which is THE Commencement Day; in fact for a complete account, compact and full, graduating essays, class picture, names of vistsors, etc., our readers must see the March Red Man, out in ten days. Address HELPER. 5 cents for a single copy. Stamps acceptable.