

THE INDIAN HELPER

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

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THE WAY OF THE WORLD.

LAUGH and the world laughs with you.
Weep and you weep alone;
For this grave old earth must borrow its mirth—
It has troubles enough of its own.

Sing, and the hills will answer,
Sigh, it is lost on the air;
The echoes bound to a joyful sound,
But shrink from voicing care.

Rejoice, and men will seek you,
Grieve, and they turn and go;
They want full measure of all your pleasure,
But do not want your woe.

Be glad, and your friends are many,
Be sad, and you lose them all;
There are none to decline your nectared wine,
But alone you must drink life's gall.

Feast, and your halls are crowded,
Fast, and the world goes by;
Succeed and give, and it helps you to live,
But no man can help you to die.
—[ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.]

INDIAN TRAITS PROPERLY TRAINED AND EDUCATED, A POWER FOR GOOD.

From An Old Time Indian Agent.

MAJOR R. H. PRATT,
CARLISLE, PA.

MY DEAR FRIEND:

You don't know how glad I am to note your promotion, and yet I am loth to give up my dear old friend—the "Captain."

Under the title of plain Capt. Pratt you have accomplished wonders for a race of people who were needy and of themselves helpless.

I do not say this to flatter you but because I know it to be true, and in substantiation of the fact, there are hundreds, yes, thousands, who have passed through your school and under the strengthening influences of your civilizing dynamo, who are to-day living examples of true manhood and womanhood.

I only need call your attention to one of our pupils, ———, whose career I have watched with more than ordinary interest.

As you know he was the son of the noted ——— war chief, ———, who was a terror to our plainsmen in Western Kansas and Colorado 25 or 30 years ago, and it was under such surroundings that his sons were born and reared in early childhood.

Soon after the war of 1874 the old chief placed his boys in the agency school.

The boy alluded to was one of the first installments sent to Carlisle, and after remaining with you for about three years, he returned to the agency and made a test of agency and camp life among his people, who were still in the blanket and living in common on their reservation.

After trying the old camp life for a few months and failing to see where his limited education and knowledge of affairs generally could be utilized, he came to my office one day and stated his case about as follows:

"I am tired of living this way with my people. If I remain here among them I shall be just like them. I can't make anything out of myself and remain here. I must have more education to compete with the whites and must have more strength to combat the evils of camp life. I wish to help my people and wish to return to my friend Captain Pratt."

Of course I made a way for his return to you and since then you know more of him than I do; but I do know that he has made a success under your wise administration and training.

To give you an idea of the Indian traits so strong in his ancestors I will relate a short incident:

In 1873 I visited the camps of this tribe on the Paladora in Texas Panhandle, and I was the guest of this particular chief.

One of his older sons had just come in from a raid, and the troops of General McKenzie had struck them at some old Fort, and one of the raiders was killed.

The son was mad, and after we were seated around the pot of young buffalo-calf he said to the interpreter:

"You tell the agent I would rather kill a white man than to eat with him."

But these same forces and traits of character properly directed, what a power for good!

The Indian Helper

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—AT THE—

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BY INDIAN BOYS.

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Miss M. Burgess, Supt. of Printing.

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.

A whole month yet to work for the prize of ten dollars for getting the most subscriptions for the HELPER. Send in your names as fast as you get them, for the people want to get the paper right away.

A Brooklyn lady appreciates the true worth of the HELPER. She says by business letter: "The high tone of moral selections in prose and poetry cannot but carry into homes wherever it goes a strength and inspiration. Wishing you continued success, etc."

One of the little girls in the country puts it thus: Please send me about 20 samples of the INDIAN HELPER. I feel that I must help too. The HELPER has always been such a help to me, so it is my turn to help the HELPER, by getting some new subscriptions. The little paper is so dear to me, and I love it better than all the newspapers.

We clip the following about two of our girls from the Presbyterian of August 3:

Mr. D. E. Shaw writes:

"Please place on your Roll of Honor the names of two girls from the Carlisle, Pa., Indian School—Miss Rachel Long, of the Cherokee tribe, and Miss Susie Raya, a Pueblo, who have recited the Shorter Catechism at one time and correctly to me, thus securing the handsome Bibles offered by the Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work."

Miss Daisy Dixon, of Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kans, whose father for sometime was our school physician, but is now Assistant Superintendent and Physician of Haskell, says they can hardly get on without the HELPER, and renews her subscription. Miss Daisy still has friends at Carlisle who remember the good days when she was with us.

Don't tell anybody how many names you have! Work quietly along, and you may surprise yourself by winning the prize. No one knows here who has the most names except the clerk in charge. He keeps the book under lock and key, and we doubt if he knows for he has not counted them yet and will not until after midnight of September 30th.

Some items from Camp Pratt, (so named by the pupils who are camping in the mountains) were too late for last issue, and we give them with pleasure this week: One evening last week 25 of the boys went fishing and caught "suckers."—Ferris Paiano and Robert Hallet are competing for the championship in berry picking.—We have taps at 8:30 and reveille at 6:30.—The boys intend to keep clean. They regularly perform their daily ablutions and on Wednesday afternoon they administered elbow grease and soap to their shirts and socks.—We miss pot-pie.—We have sour milk for our oatmeal in the morning.—Oscar Davis joined our company on Wednesday.—We think there are no better cooks around than Misses Louisa Geisdorff and Mary Barada.—Little Harry Seonia says he is hungry for water.—The little girls are comfortably fixed but packed in like sardines in a box. All seem to enjoy it even if we are crowded.—The girls go berry picking mornings and afternoons but are always back for their meals.—We enjoy the Government gravy here as well as at the school.—The girls have an easy time under the care and protection of mother Campbell.—Our first visitors were Miss Noble and Irene Campbell.—Misses Louisa Geisdorff, Nettie Horne and Mary Barada had a battle with a copperhead recently.

LATER—The girls and boys attended all the services in the church here on Sunday and the house was well filled, the greater part of the congregation coming from Camp Pratt.—Misses Shaffner, Delia Randall, Ella Rickard, Erney Wilbur, Susie Henni, Sarah Smith, Annie Morton and Annie Kowuni spent Sunday enjoying the mountain air, and it is hoped their visit came up to the expectation of all.—Geo. Wolfe deserves great credit for his wood cutting.—This is not the place to give much attention to dress but who brought his nice clothes along?—Father Marshall and his flock come in every day with their baskets filled with berries, each boy picking his three quarts.—Mr. Marshall took all the little girls to the Park and gave them a boat ride. He also takes care of the little girls when they go for berries a long distance.—We all thank Major Pratt for this outing, all with a few exceptions have enjoyed it very much.—Tuesday morning 7 boys came out from the school to rusticate. An equal number, including the Seniors went in. The boys who returned were very much missed.—The boys have picked more than 300 quarts of berries.—Our energetic fishermen have not yet succeeded in making a "big haul."

An interested gentleman writes these encouraging words in his letter renewing subscription: "To confess the truth, the paper is a wonderful incentive to a teacher of white boys. If your instructors and pupils, working together, can build up so much of culture and character, when the beginning must be made by clearing away the roughest tanglewood of savagery, what ought not we to accomplish in our city schools under conditions the most favorable?"

The friends of Miss Rosenberg of Helsingfors, Finland, who visited the school two years ago a guest of Miss Ericson will be glad to learn that she is now teaching Sloyd at the Versailles, N. Y., Iroquois school.

Grapes!

Peaches are dear.

Good-bye, vacation!

Another warm wave.

Welcome shop-bell again!

The farmers will finish cutting ensilage this week.

Mr. Snyder and Miss Paull arrived on Tuesday.

Lots of news; more than our columns will hold this week.

Misses Carter, Bowersox, Robertson, Peter, and Simmons came on Monday.

Miss Carter will be in charge of the small boys' quarters until Mrs. Given returns.

The Juniors and Seniors have returned from camp to begin school at the opening.

The Standings are back from the sea-shore where the family spent a very enjoyable fortnight.

Mr. Frank Thompson, of Albany, N. Y., brother of our disciplinarian, is here for a few weeks.

Don't send us many one-cent stamps. Two-cent stamps in amounts less than a dollar are acceptable.

Miss Shaffner has been elected President of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Carlisle.

Stuart Hazlett and George Welch were among the campers ordered in for the beginning of school.

Everybody is glad to see Abram Isaac back. He says he had a very pleasant summer at his home in Michigan.

Kendall Paul and Edgar Rickard printers attended the Grangers' picnic held this week at Williams Grove.

The quarters have been getting a good kalsomining through and through while most of the occupants were out in camp.

The most beautiful spot just now on the grounds is the shop court with its three flower-beds full of brilliant blooms.

Were you favored to see the beautiful night blooming cereus that opened its handsome petals one night this week in Miss Hulme's room?

Misses Cutter, Wood, Cochran, Hill, Seonia, Weekley, Forster and Mrs. Sawyer arrived on Wednesday evening, all looking well, sunburned and rested.

The Juniors and Seniors have come in from the country ready for school. The main body of incomers will not get here till about the middle of the month.

One of the girls in the country who is working for HELPER subscriptions says that she has gained 15 pounds since May. Soliciting must be healthful business.

About a thousand of the Waynesboro employees and their families passed through the school on Saturday. They were on an excursion to Harrisburg. Their stay was short but long enough for our work to provoke thought and comment regarding the justice of bringing the Indian youth into civilization. As they passed off the grounds the writer stood in a position to overhear side remarks which gave the trend of thought.

School work began yesterday, but it is thought wise to allow those in camp to remain out for a few days during the present hot wave. The bells will begin to ring on Monday and the academic wheel for the year will begin to turn.

Susie Henni, class '98, has gone to her home in New Mexico, after living for a time with Mr. and Mrs. Pratt at Steelton. Miss Susie is capable and skilful in certain lines and her friends hope that she will find pleasant paths in fields of great usefulness.

Miss Ericson returned from Bay View on Friday evening. She thinks that no summer school can equal Bay View for scope and excellency of training. Although a graduate of Helsingfors, the very seat of Sloyd, she feels that she has gained ideas this summer that will strengthen and help her in her work.

Mr. Gardner has taken the scaffolding down that was placed in Assembly Hall for Messrs. Elmer and Norman who did the painting and frescoing. There are a few finishing touches around the sides yet to do, then we will have one of the prettiest assembly halls in the country. Why not? Does not Carlisle believe in having the BEST when she can get it?

Mrs. Cook came on Thursday night and left for the Dakotas the following Saturday. She will visit Rosebud and Pine Ridge and other Agencies and expects to return soon after the middle of September. Mrs. Cook is well known among the Sioux. Her late husband, the Rev. Charles Smith Cook, a gentleman of refinement and culture, was of Sioux extraction, among whom he labored as a missionary for several years. Amelia Killbull and Esther Whitehead went with her, the former to return.

Mr. John A. Hall, '98, Yale, whose home is in New Haven, Conn., is here to coach the football team. Mr. Hall has played on the Yale team for several years, and was a member of the team of '97 which finished their season by defeating Princeton. Our boys will have the best of fields on which to do their practicing this year, and with the good training they are to have, it is hoped they will make even a better record than last year, when they did well enough to bring them into world wide reputation as skilful and gentlemanly players.

Major and Mrs. Pratt and Miss Richenda, returned on Wednesday evening from the sea-side and Philadelphia. While in the city the Major visited the hospitals where the sick and dying soldiers from Cuba and southern camps are being cared for, and his heart was stirred with sympathy. There are 125 cases of typhoid and pneumonia at the Medico-Chirurgical where Miss Nancy Seneca, one of our girls is taking a course. She is on night duty and is highly spoken of.

Mr. C. M. Sturm of the clerical force in the Administration building has been transferred and promoted to the Land Office, in Washington, D. C., as stenographer and type-writer, for which post of duty he left yesterday. Mr. Sturm has been with us about a year, and in that time has made many warm friends who will miss his genial presence. The class in shorthand, which he started in the winter, will especially miss him, while the Man-on-the-band-stand and all his friends wish him well where'er he is called.

HOW CAN YOUR PUPILS GET AN EDUCATION OUT ON FARMS AND WHAT IS YOUR OBJECT IN SENDING THEM OUT?

"Such questions as the above are often asked," says one of our girls in the country, and she cannot make the people understand her explanations. We have promised to answer the questions through the columns of the HELPER:

1st. How do your pupils get an education on farms?

By getting into close relationship with people who know more than they do, and who are able to give them individual instruction.

A Carlisle Indian boy's farm father may not speak the best of English. He may not have much book learning. He may never have had as good a chance when young to go to school and learn from books as has the Indian boy under his care, but if he is a well-to-do farmer, if he has learned how to manage the farm so as to raise good crops; if he has learned such business ways as to make the farm return him a living, then he knows more than the Indian boy who lives with him. It matters not if that Indian boy is a college student, he is weak in practical knowledge and experience which make MEN worth something to themselves and to the world.

Of what use is a "booky" man in the world if he cannot make his own living?

EVERY boy in the land whether he be Indian, black or white cannot but be benefited if he knocks around on a farm for a while.

There are thousands of nameless little handi-works that all young men must learn if they do not wish to be considered weaklings.

It would be better if all the RICH men in the country would put their sons for a time on such farms as we find our Indian boys working on in Bucks and other eastern counties of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

There would be more sensible men in the world than are growing up today, if that were possible.

How do our pupils get an education on a farm?

They get it unconsciously, without effort. They drink in practical knowledge and commonsense every day from the atmosphere of business around them.

They learn to bear hard knocks.

What is a man worth if he had no hard knocks to bear when a growing boy?

Life is too easy for the Indians in the average Government Indian school that provides everything they need for but a few hours of work each day.

The hard knocks; the practical experience;

the chance to battle for himself, all of these things when mastered is an education, and the very best kind.

Book education is worth a very great deal. Every person must have a certain amount of book education else he is very weak, but the home experiences with people who have to work for their support is worth even more than book knowledge to a boy.

2nd. What is your object in sending them out?

We have answered the last question in answering the first.

The main object is to broaden the minds of our pupils; to give them the experiences that ALL men of commonsense and good standing have had to pass through, in one way or another.

Then, too, the change of air and food and occupation is beneficial to health.

Nearly all our boys and girls grow stronger and more rugged when they go out to live for a time in country homes.

They get money, too, which makes them more self-respecting and independent.

"But MY son knew how to work before he went to Carlisle, he has money enough and he knows English. I want him to go to school and not out to work," writes one father.

Did he know how to work systematically? Had he learned the first principles of thrift and economy?

Had he learned to STICK TO IT when he wanted to go to play, and that pleasure must sometimes be sacrificed for BUSINESS, where bread and butter depends upon one's work?

We feel sorry for such a father. He could not come to Carlisle and visit the homes in the country and see what our pupils gain, what HIS SON gains—by change of air, of occupation, of food and of associations, without believing in the plan.

So our object in sending our pupils out to live in the country for a time is:

1. To enlarge their experience.
2. To benefit them in health.
3. To give them a chance to earn money.
4. To learn important lessons in home life that cannot be taught in any institution.
5. To satisfy their desire for a change.
6. To give them a trip.
7. To become socially acquainted with good country people and their ways.
8. To make them self-reliant.
9. To give them courage.
10. Above all to make true men and women of them.

Enigma.

I am made of 12 letters.
My 10, 12, 3, 7 is the name of a pretty little bird.

My 8, 9, 6 is where hay is sometimes kept.
My 2, 5, 4, 1 is the command of a military officer when he wants his men to stop.

My 4, 11, 3 is the name of a great general.
My whole is an instrument, the music of which is soon to cease for a while at Carlisle.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ENIGMA: The Stonecrusher.