

THE INDIAN HELPER

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

VOL. XIV.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1899.

NUMBER 25.

TWENTY-ONE.

THE heart is young, the step is light,
The voice is sweet, the eye is bright,
Hope sings a song of pure delight
At twenty-one.

Rarely we know a passing tear,
Care we have none, and little fear,
With song and jest our bark we steer
At twenty-one.

Too soon, however, comes dull care,
Life's work and battle we must share,
Quickly we reach, 'mid storm and glare
Twice twenty-one,

But they who read life's problem right,
Their courage keep, with heart as light,
As when they started for the fight
At twenty-one.

Long may you sail upon life's sea,
Mid Fortune's smiles and fancy free,
With friends as true as true can be,
Sweet twenty-one,

Though Time his flight he ne'er can stay
(The cheek will pale, the hair turn gray),
In heart, in mind, in spirit gay,
As love-song tuned to minstrel lay,
Rest ever what you are to-day,
Just twenty-one.
—London St. Paul's.

ANOTHER HABIT THAT KILLS.

The Indians of the South West have what is called the bean habit.

It has not been talked about much and is not generally known.

One of our boys who had been home for a number of years and then came back to Carlisle gave the writer a vivid description of the growing vice among the Indians.

"What is the bean they eat?" asked the writer.

"It is called the mescal bean."

"What is there about it to like?"

"Oh, it makes the Indians dream, and they are very happy. They go to the happy hunting grounds, and then come back again and tell the wonderful things they saw."

"Did you ever eat any?"

"Yes! Once."

"Did you feel happy?"

"Oh, yes."

"You are a Cheyenne. Do all the Cheyennes and Arapahoes eat them?"

"No. The Kiowas and Comanches do it the most."

"Where do they get the beans?"

"In Texas."

There is reason to believe that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes indulge in the vice more than is suspected, says the Herald-Sentinel of Oklahoma, and the same paper gives the experience of a trader who ate three of the beans as an experiment.

The first effects of the mescal bean are very exhilarating. His past life passed before him like a dream.

Every little detail of events that had happened and been forgotten a quarter of a century ago was as vivid as though they had taken place only yesterday.

He was on horseback and rode nearly thirty miles before the effect wore away.

He imagined that his horse, a rough riding broncho, traveled as easily as a boat drifting on a placid river.

The intoxication disappeared suddenly and almost without warning.

He was at once plunged into an almost miserable state of collapse and from an optimistic exaltation he sank into utter despondency; every thing was dark and hopeless with fearful shadows.

So injurious is this habit that a law has been passed prohibiting the sale of the mescal bean among the Indians, but it is said that the only way to give proper effect to the law is to induce the States of Texas, Kansas and Arkansas to pass similar laws, and in that way build a wall around Oklahoma.

It was not such an unnatural mistake for an Indian boy to write in his examination paper "the house of gods" when he meant "the house of lords," but it was amusing all the same.

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.

Price—10 cents per year

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

Address INDIAN HELPER, Carlisle, Pa.
Miss M. Burgess, Supl. 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.

On Wednesday, just before noon, Miss Shaffner took her departure from our school. The band was playing upon the band-stand and the balconies of the girls' quarters were thronged with her girls all eager to give a last good-bye shake of the handkerchief. The occasion was solemn and quiet as the leave-taking was going on; and when the Herdie drove away and the procession of girls filed orderly back to resume their respective duties many eyes were tear dimmed and red. Even those whose memories might have carried them to times when sharp correction was necessary, were sad, for a faithful friend and caretaker had gone.

On the evening before, the faculty and officers were invited to an informal reception given in Miss Shaffner's honor by Major and Mrs. Pratt at their house. Here all had an opportunity to see the wedding gifts. If the array were not enough to arouse the envy of those who expect to remain in single blessedness, the presents were so numerous and so elegant as to excite the admiration of all. Arranged with cards attached there were a dozen beautiful silver oyster forks; a dozen silver dinner knives, with chaste handles of the most delicate and exquisite pattern; a dozen dainty after-dinner coffee spoons; silver tea pot, sugar bowl, cream pitcher and tongs; a dozen silver forks; a dozen silver spoons; a set of elegant ivory handle, steel-blade dinner knives; a lovely onyx ink-stand; a half dozen tea spoons; two hand-painted silk sofa cushions; table-clothes, napkins and embroideries; a handsomely framed photograph of "Christ in Gethsemane;" three pretty tea-spoons in a case: two silver bon-bon baskets one of which was gold lined; French China ice-cream set, beautifully decorated; large chafing-dish, fork and spoon; a handsomely embroidered center piece; a heavy gilt framed photograph of the eleven girls comprising her King's Daughters' Circle, known as the What-so-ers—their gift; a loom showing the manner of weaving the Navajo blankets; a handsome large silver berry spoon and a dozen berry forks.

The Man-on-the-band-stand is pleased to see the notices in the trolley car: "Spitting on the floor positively forbidden." No one but a very filthy, indecent person would think of doing such a thing, and yet we occasionally see a well-dressed man who looks the gentleman in every other particular spit upon the pavement or on the floor by his seat in the steam car. The filthiness of the practice is the least to consider. It is a thing that spreads disease, and most of the good towns of our land are making strict laws prohibiting spitting upon the pavements. The Man-on-the-band-stand would like to see a law here at our school making a five-dollar fine for spitting upon the walks or stairs or floor. It would be a good plan for the sake of the health of our school to offer a reasonable reward for the detection of a boy or girl spitting on the floor, stairs or pavement. Let us stop it without the reward! Do we see any one spitting where he or she ought not? Let us handle him or her in a way they will not like. Mrs. Pratt tells a story of a pet dog they had in Florida. He would chase the mocking-birds, and one day she heard a great commotion out in the orange grove, and went out to find a flock of mocking-birds after their enemy, and they were pecking his very life out, while the poor dog, with tail hanging down and head drooping was glad to be rescued by Mrs. Pratt. Now that is the way to manage these filthy spitters. Let the clean students band together; if they detect a person spitting on the floor or pavement or on the stairs or anywhere he or she ought not to, let us flock about and pester him in such a way that he will be glad to promise never to do so again. The pet dog never troubled the mocking-birds after his punishment, and some people seem to need just such severe treatment to make them decent and well-behaved.

Nancy Cornelius now at Oneida, Wisconsin, is following her profession as nurse. She is doing hospital work, and has private patients also. A recent cheery letter from her tells of her patients all doing well. She speaks of her new sister, Martha Siekles Cornelius, class '98, who married Nancy's brother James, also a Carlisle pupil, in the kindest terms, and she rejoices in her sister Isabella's success as a teacher of white children in New England.

Mrs. Lillian L. Richardson, of Crow Agency, Montana, writes that it was her intention to return to Carlisle after her visit East last year, but that she had a severe attack of the grippe which left her with congested lungs. She says that, Mr. Wright, who married Miss Hunt, is a friend of theirs. It will be remembered that Mrs. Richardson was Miss Woolston when a teacher with us.

Amelia Metoxen who is living in a home at Mt. Holly, N. J., seems to enjoy her place and says that she had an excellent teacher this winter. As a closing line she wonders if our girls ever saw this: "When a careless waitress takes a trip she steps into Greece and goes through China."

We have the news from Samuel Tilden that a little daughter has come to live with them, and her name is Hattie Tilden. He says he is doing well and working on the farm, in Spalding, Idaho.

Seichu Atsaye writes that she arrived safely at her home in Laguna, New Mexico.

Who will be the next?

A fine spell of weather.

Bicycling has begun in earnest.

Don't speak of your employer as "My Boss."

"Cheerfulness is the daughter of employment"

The continued fine weather brings numerous visitors.

Miss Senseney has been visiting friends in Baltimore.

Major Pratt went to Washington, yesterday, on business.

The Juniors have selected for class colors blue and crimson.

Jessie Palmer, of North Dakota, has entered Carlisle as a student.

At 2 o'clock to-day, Mr. Norman, "Professor" of painting was -2 years old.

When the band and fine weather come together happy hearts are made.

Miss Gutelius of Harrisburg, aunt of Miss Shaffner, was here on Wednesday.

Miss Paul has been detailed temporarily to the clerical force for Miss Ely's aid.

A very impressive meeting was held on Sunday evening, Miss Shaffner leading.

Do you dry your forks BETWEEN the tines? If not, you are not a neat dish-washer.

Numbers 6 and 3 have been consolidated, with Mr. Sowerby as teacher, and Miss Carter has 4 and 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Standing entertained a select few to tea on Saturday evening in honor of Miss Shaffner.

The Carlisle Fortnightly Club met at Mrs. Pratt's on Monday evening. Miss Cutter read a paper on Birds.

Miss Nana Pratt returned to Philadelphia last week, and is still there. Mrs. Pratt left for the same city, yesterday.

Our baseball boys play the Syracuse University team to-day. It is said that the New York team is a fine one.

One of the older girls was heard to say: "I wish I was a new girl, so that I would not feel so badly over Miss Shaffner's going."

The march which played the pupils out of Assembly Hall on Wednesday morning was composed by Robert McArthur, No. 11.

The large tree at east end of school-building has been removed to make ready for an extension to the building to be put up this summer.

Mrs. Kate Butler has been transferred from the position as clerk in Miss Ely's office, to a clerkship in the Indian office at Washington, D. C., at an advanced salary. Carlisle loses an efficient assistant in the clerical force, a most affable and genial social companion, a splendid musician and an interested worker in general. Mrs. Butler liked Carlisle and her work here, but her home for a number of years was Washington, and she desired to live in the Capital City on account of the educational privileges to be secured there for her children, and to be with old associations. With one voice her many friends at Carlisle extend congratulations for her promotion, mingled with regrets at her leaving and best wishes for success in her chosen field.

Miss Richenda Pratt spent a delightful ten days in Washington. She left yesterday for Wilson College with her room-mate, Miss Koch, who was her guest Wednesday night.

Have you seen the Pictorial Souvenir of Carlisle, Pennsylvania? It is quite an attractive advertising scheme, and the pictures of noted buildings and prominent people are very good.

Rev. McMillan of the Episcopalian Church, and the pastor of the Methodist Church, now Rev. Mosser, were welcomed as usual on last Thursday evening by their respective classes for private instruction in different school-rooms.

Miss Hulme in charge of sewing department spent Arbor day and a few more with friends in Moorestown, N. J. returning Tuesday evening. She brought back a hoarse (in her throat.)

It is Miss Miles' and Miss Peter's turn to visit the Invincibles; Miss Paul and Miss Robertson will go to the Standards, and Miss Luckenbach and Miss Smith to the Susans, to-night.

Miss Shaffner left as a last request; "Please thank for me through the columns of the HELPER the girls' country mothers, many of whom wrote letters of congratulations. It was impossible to answer all at the last."

Mr. Standing and Mr. Thompson had business calls for the school yesterday to the City of Brotherly Love. Mr. Standing appears before the United States court against certain parties for furnishing liquor to Indian boys.

On Tuesday afternoon, the shop-bell by mistake rang twenty minutes before time to stop work. It is astonishing how soon the shops were empty, showing that many must have been in readiness to stop long before time. It is well to begin work on time, and just as important to stop on time, but to be ready long BEFORE time is not honest, is it?

Some of the trees that were planted on Monday were named after notable characters. The printers called theirs Gutenberg, after the inventor of printing; the hospital tree was named by the tailors, William J. Bryan, whom the speaker said was to be the next President of the United States; the one near the Sloyd room bears the name of Ruth.

"Tails I win, heads you lose?" asked one of our number of another as they agreed to toss up for a certain place at the table. Both wanted the place. "All right," said the second party, in a very satisfied tone. When the penny turned up tail she of course lost; and would she not have lost had it turned up head? She didn't see it, and the joke was on her.

Miss Shaffner gave a brief farewell address at the close of the Girls' Society last Friday evening, which was full of feeling. The Society may not fully realize the great value she was to it, although the members seem to appreciate the fact that her aid pulled them over many difficult places and gave them courage. The pictures of noted women which grace the walls were obtained through her efforts. She was an indefatigable worker along all intellectual lines, and aroused an ambition and a pride in such pursuits, which it is to be hoped will ever live.

IT WAS A PRETTY SIGHT

On Monday afternoon, the tree-planting, which could not be done on Arbor Day—Friday, on account of the rain, took place with interesting ceremonies.

Each class, selecting a tree of choice variety, gathered around the place dug the Thursday before, and sang hymns and patriotic songs, and delivered impromptu addresses, many of which were teeming with wit and originality.

Music by the band added a charm to the living picture.

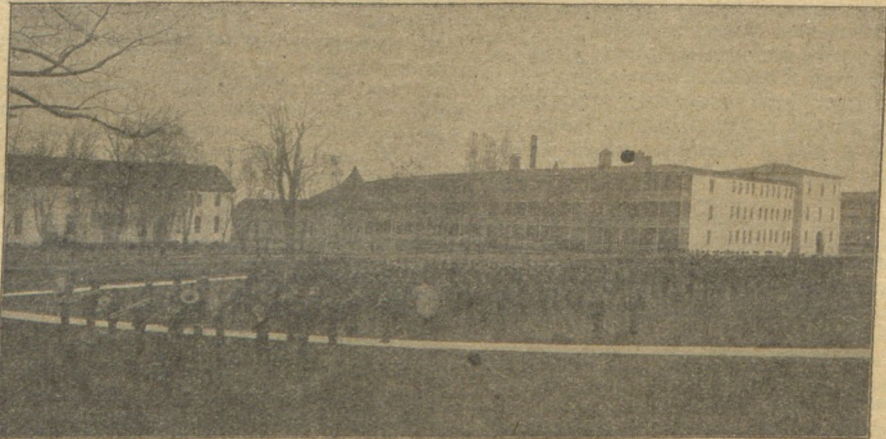
The scene?

Boys in blue; girls in white aprons; groups of both here and there; robins hopping about on the fresh green sward; budding trees whose net-work of leafless branches against the blue

PRACTICAL DOSES.

Carlisle graduating Exercises were held on Thursday, March 2. It was one of the famous days for that splendid school. More than 3,000 people were assembled for some of the exercises. Many distinguished visitors were in attendance. Seven hundred Indian voices with a band accompaniment sang Kipling's Recessional with soul stirring effect. The Graduating class numbered in all thirty three, and in this class fourteen states of the Union and seventeen tribes of Indians were represented. Carlisle is doing magnificent work, and Major Pratt's practical doses of civilization are having a most gratifying effect.

—[Progress.



THE BATTALION ON DRESS PARADE.

sky and the shadowy tints of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the distance formed a background which excelled any ever made by brush on canvas.

Then the merry voices and happy shouts after the exercises served as accompaniment to the closing selections of the band.

Arbor day of '99 must ever live in the memories of those who participated in its enjoyments, and in connection with the impressive addresses made by Major Pratt and Assistant-superintendent, Mr. Standing, as well as the recitations, quotations and singing of the Friday before in the Assembly Hall, all bearing upon the importance of the tree culture, the event surely made us think more of and care more for these gigantic plant promoters of human health, happiness and comfort.

"Your little paper is very attractive," claims a New York City subscriber.

GOD IN COMMON THINGS.

"When God calls us to suffer, God calls us to gain and grow thereby," says the Sunday School Times. And further, the same great paper says; "Spirituality is seeing God in common things, and showing God in common tasks. To plow a straight furrow on Monday, dust a room well on Tuesday, kiss a bumped forehead on Wednesday, is worth more than the most ecstatic thrill under Sunday eloquence.

Enigma.

I am composed of 12 letters.

My 6, 7, 4, 2 is a vessel on water.

My 12, 8, 9 is what farmers are beginning to do.

My 3, 10, 1, 5 is not false.

My 1, 4, 11 is what we all must have.

My whole is what we generally have this time of year.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ENIGMA: Sunshine.