

A full-blood Indian's letter.

The following letter was written to one of his friends by a full-blood Pottawatomie Indian of Oklahoma. The keen sense of humor and playful irony which pervade every line of it will prove an agreeable surprise to the reader and afford a striking instance of the alertness of mind of the American Red Man.

Mayetta, Kansas.

October 18, 1908

Dear friend Nancy: -

I hate to write you a letter, because you will have Bro. John to read it for you.

She is an O'Flanigan, the daughter of a supreme Catholic, who was at one time Editor of the 'Kansas Catholic.'

Well here, I had to jump into a train, and I am finishing this letter in Crane & Woodburn's office. You tell Bro. John's Brother, that John O'Flanigan, if he had not been a Catholic, would, fifteen years ago, have been considered the wittiest, the wisest, and the most learned man in Kansas. But this does not concern Bro. John's Brother. She told me to tell Bro. John's Brother to come and see her. I told her that Bro. John's Brother had eighty acres of land, and twelve or fifteen hundred Dollars in care and keeping of Bro. John. She remarked that she did not care for the eighty and a few hundred, because she had more land and more money, but she wanted to know more of the manly qualities of the mysterious Bro. John's Brother. I told her Bro. John's Brother was a mathematician, and a civil engineer by profession, and that, while Bro. John speaks his English in the American style, his brother speaks his in the hasty, loose wit of the Irish, tinged with a Gaelic brogue. She wanted to know if Bro. John's Brother was a graduate of Maynooth, Dublin? I told her that the Bro. John's Brothers were of Irish descent but American bred, excepting that Bro. John's Brother took a little too much after his Irish mother. She said she admired those qualities in an Irishman. She asked me Bro. John's Brother's age? I had to use some Hibernicism, that Bro. John's Brother is a young man with gray hair, that came on twenty