

AN ATTACK ON THE EDUCATED INDIAN CONTRASTED WITH FIGURES FROM THE FAMOUS CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL



INDIAN BOYS MAKING CARRIAGES.
The upholstery section at the Carlisle Indian School.

EDUCATING THE INDIAN.

SUCCESS ATTENDANT ON THE WORK OF THE CARLISLE SCHOOL—GRADUATES DOING GOOD WORK.

The federal agent on the Ponca and Oakland Indian reservation, in Oklahoma, in his recent report to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, severely arraigned the policy of educating the Indians. Among other things he said:

Hardly any of the young Indians—those who have graduated from non-reservation schools, as well as those who have attended for a number of years—do any work at all. It can be set down as a perfectly safe rule that as a class the young educated Indians are the most worthless ones in the whole tribe. Nearly all of the work done by the tribes is performed by the middle aged, able bodied ones, who cannot write or speak English.

The educated Indian coming from the schools usually gives the excuse that he has nothing with which to work, neither money, implements nor stock of any kind. This is true, but I notice that they manage to live on their annuities and lease money, and buy horses, buggies, etc., on credit, and borrow money from the banks, with very little prospect of ever being able to pay their debts. Any able bodied man or woman is able to obtain work at fair wages.

Many of their people are addicted to drink, and both men and women are inveterate gamblers. They have practically nothing to do. Their days are spent in almost utter idleness, and vice and debauchery are rampant. The degradation of these people will continue and increase until they are made to work and live by the result of their labors.

When Superintendent Pratt of the famous Carlisle School for Indians was asked last week how far the records of that school would bear out or contravert this report of the Indian agent, he forwarded to this office the following figures:

Carlisle has 296 living graduates. Careful information collected this month shows 24 employed by the government, at salaries of from \$240 to \$900 a year; 26 attending higher schools, colleges, etc.; 33 married, keeping their own homes; 47 honorably employed away from the reservations, in banks, as clerks, as mechanics, in independent business, etc.; 1 lawyer, 1 in the army, 26 farming and stock raising in the West on allotment; 19 at home with parents, 3 graduate nurses, practising in cities; 3 bad and worthless, 13 no information.

When the first party of Indian children came to the peaceful Pennsylvania valley of Carlisle to begin their instruction under the direction of the government, there was consternation among the quiet farmers. The party consisted of eighty untaught boys and girls from the Sioux agencies at Rosebud and Pine Ridge, in Dakota. They wore blankets after the fashion of their tribe, painted their faces and bedecked their bodies with gaudy beads and other ornaments. Some of them were nearly grown up, and the farmers had visions of midnight raids from howling bands of scalp-lifting Indians. This was twenty-three years ago, and there were few who did not prophesy the utter failure of the school.

To-day Carlisle, with its many unique features and for the wonderful work which it has done for the Indians, is one of the best known institutions of education in this country. The scalping parties which the farmers feared never came, the expected outlawry did not materialize, nor has there ever been a sign of treachery. Instead, there has been a steady development of the institution, which started with the old buildings of an abandoned army post. The number of Indian boys and girls has increased to more than a thousand, representing seventy-seven different tribes. The presence of these savage youths has brought about no change in the quiet community, and the farmers have had far less trouble than those who live in the vicinity of a college or a university which takes its students from civilized homes.

New-York has come into contact with the Indian school through two branches of student activity—the football team and the Indian band. The band was a success on its merits—it played

good music and drew admiring crowds. The football team makes many friends every time it plays on a New-York gridiron, because it plays the strenuous game and plays it hard. It usually plays more of the big college teams during the season than any other eleven, and the training which results is invaluable to the opponents of the red men. Once in a while the Indians get together in an irresistible fashion and one of the big universities lowers its colors, as Cornell did a few days ago.

The Indian school idea sprang from the necessity of caring for a number of Kiowa, Comanche, Cheyenne and Arapahoe braves, taken as prisoners of war in the fierce Indian campaign of 1875. They were to be sent in chains to old Fort Marion, at St. Augustine, Fla. Before the party started East Captain R. H. Pratt, who is now in command of the Carlisle school with the rank of colonel, wrote from Fort Still to General Sheridan, at Chicago:

The young men in this party (the Indian prisoners) while undergoing this banishment should be educated in English, trained in our industries, and brought in contact with our civilization as much as possible, for sooner or later they will be returned to their tribes, and, after all, they are not so culpable as their old leaders, being more like soldiers acting under orders.

Not long after their arrival in Florida their chains were removed and they were allowed to work about the fort. Presently, so trustworthy had they proved, work was given to them in the town. Women of St. Augustine became interested in them, and a school was started in the fort prison. They were so appreciative that when their term of banishment was ended more than a score of them asked permission to continue their education in the East.

An attempt was made to unite the problem of the Indian with that of the negro. A number of Dakota children were placed in the Hampton Institute in Virginia. The problems were different in so many respects that it soon became apparent that if the Indians were to be civilized by education a separate school was necessary. Captain Pratt was finally ordered to start such a school, and the place selected was the fort where cavalry had for years been trained for Indian fighting on the plains.

"God helps them that help themselves" was the motto adopted at the organization of the institution in 1879, and from it there has been no deviation. Carlisle does not try to fit the

Indian to return to the semi-civilization of the reservation. A greater good is attained by fitting him for citizenship and for competition with the rest of the world in any part of the country.

Its greatest feature, perhaps, is the industrial departments, in which the Indian youth spends one-half of each school day. At the age of sixteen the students are allowed to select their trade, and they thereafter follow it under a trained instructor or competent mechanic. They advance through the various stages from helper to journeyman. Carpentry and cabinetmaking, blacksmithing and wagonmaking, painting, harnessmaking, tinsmithing, shoemaking, tailoring and printing are among the trades open to them. The women are trained in domestic sciences, sewing, laundry and hospital work. Farming and dairying on scientific lines are taught on the farms near the school.

Every student who goes to Carlisle is expected to spend at least one year in a country home. This year is called an "outing," and the Indian looks forward to it with much pleasure. It gives him an insight into and a taste of civilized home life such as he could not know in the rude tepees of his fathers and which cannot be brought out at the school. The students attend the nearest public school during the winter, and out of hours do the work which makes up for their board. In the months when they are not in school they receive small wages.

HOLLOW CAR AXLES.

It is well known that a given amount of metal arranged in the form of a tube will possess greater rigidity than as a solid bar. The principle was long ago utilized in the formation of the square columns of steel frame buildings. Lately it has been applied to the immense shafts of ocean steamships, which are subjected to severe bending as well as twisting strains. A hollow shaft is stiffer than a solid one of the same weight. The most recent use of the idea is in the manufacture of axles for cars.

A large number of hollow axles have been made in one of the shops of the Carnegie company, at Pittsburg. It is asserted that less metal is used in them than in the ordinary axle. They also require much less machine work to finish them. From the manufacturer's point of view, at least, they are more satisfactory than those which they are designed to replace. Just

what service may be expected of them is another question. In order to settle that question, a lot of cars are now being built with hollow axles under one truck and solid ones under the other. These are to be run for six months, and then examined for signs of wear.

NEW BUILDING MATERIAL.

AN ASBESTOS COMPOSITION WHICH TAKES THE PLACE OF WOOD.

An enormous warehouse for the storage of fresh meat imported from Australia and other countries has just been constructed at the Albert Docks, in London. This is equipped with the best appliances for refrigeration, and it is said to be the only warehouse of its kind in London that delivers directly to the railroad system of the country. Another novelty which is reported by the English press is that a substance called "uralite" has entered largely into its construction.

Uralite, according to recent consular reports to the American Government, is the invention of a Russian artillery officer and chemist, Imschenetzky. A possible similarity between some of its qualities and those of the mountain chain that separates European Russia from Siberia doubtless suggested the name. At any rate, its chief trait is its power of resisting fire. This might be inferred from the statement that it is a composition of which asbestos is the chief ingredient. It is also a non-conductor of heat, and on that account particularly serviceable in cold storage warehouses, breweries and other buildings where it is desirable to check radiation. With the addition of a little paint it can be made absolutely waterproof. Finally, it is not acted upon by the chemicals in ordinary smoke or factory fumes, such as destroy galvanized iron.

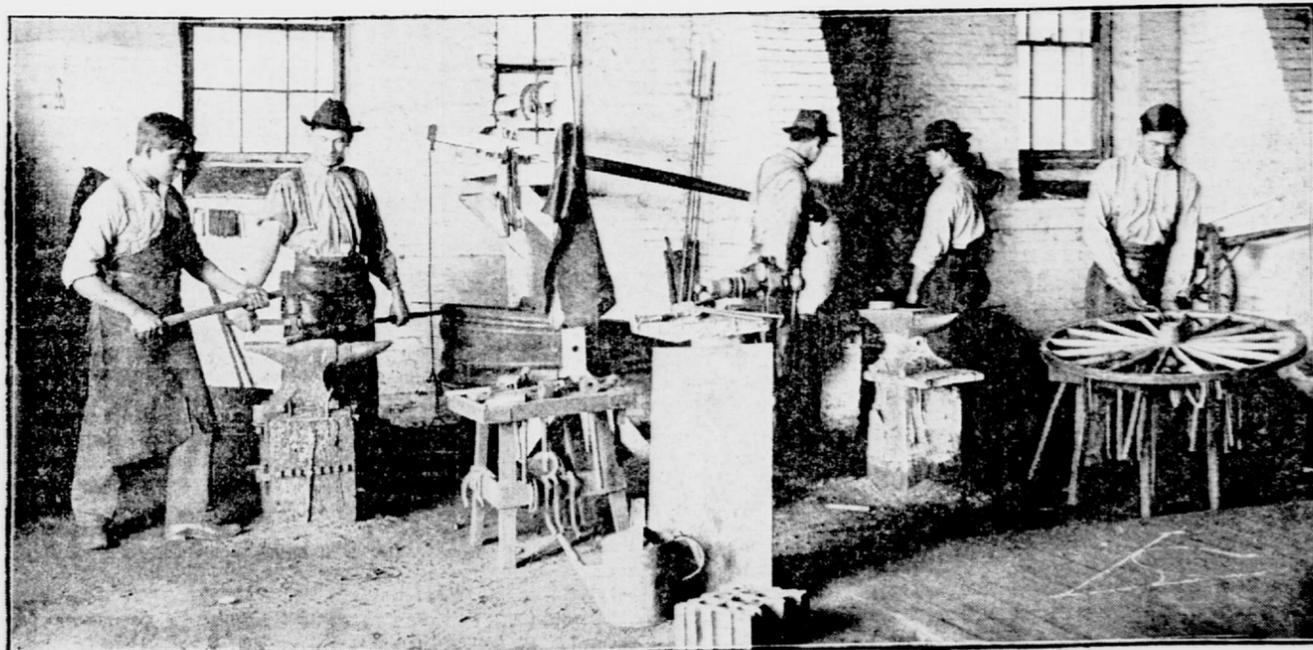
By varying the amount and kind of the other ingredients—silicate and bicarbonate of soda and chalk—two kinds of uralite may be made. One is soft, like wood, and may be worked like the latter, or moulded so as to exhibit decorative reliefs. The other variety is harder, resembling stone, and emitting a metallic ring when struck. Since it does not warp or swell under the influence of moisture, it is peculiarly adapted to service on shipboard; but its main use will probably be for cabinet work and building on land, where fireproof properties are wanted—these recommend it for electric railway cars, for instance.

Asbestos is a fibrous material, and is often called mineral wool. In making uralite out of it the stuff is treated something like paper pulp, being first beaten so as to loosen up the threads. Water is added to facilitate the operation, and, after draining, the material is colored by the introduction of a little whitening, carbon or red oxide, which is thoroughly incorporated with the fibre. While yet wet and plastic the asbestos is rolled out like pasteboard into sheets of the desired thickness, and, like pasteboard, it is built up by depositing one thin film upon another until the proper depth has been secured. A limited amount of silicate and carbonate of soda is added when the films are being drawn out of the mixer. After being squeezed in a hydraulic press and dried by passing through warm rooms the sheets are again coated with solutions of these chemicals, and are then ready for use. The hardness of the material depends largely upon the number of coatings it receives at this time.

Uralite, in spite of its mineral character, weighs only about one-fifth as much as iron.

POOR PUG.

From The Philadelphia Press.
Cholly—I nevah met such a queer girl. While I was calling there the othah evening she made me pet her pug dog and awsked me if I didn't want to kiss the beast.
Miss Fepprey—The idea! Perhaps she doesn't know that you smoke cigarettes.



INDIAN BOYS LEARNING TO BE BLACKSMITHS.
At the Carlisle Indian School.