

AH-DE-DAH! AH-DE-DAH!

WEIRD VERSE DEPICTING INDIAN LIFE AND CUSTOM

The poem following is from the pen of Dr. Chas. M. Buchanan, superintendent of the Tulalip Indian School of the State of Washington. The fascinating and weird style of the poem is in the metre chosen by Longfellow in writing "Hiawatha." The "Ah-de-dah" of the poem means "Alas! Alas!" and is a part of the weird incantation of the Indians when they flock, periodically, to the white sands of their beautiful bay at Tulalip and croon guttural songs at skyue—their burying grounds. We consider this a work of great beauty and interest and are delighted to be able to publish it.

AH-DE-DAH! AH-DE-DAHI

Oh Thou Spirit, all pervading,
 Spirit dwelling in the mountain,
 In the plain and in the water,
 In the air and all above it,
 Everywhere that time and space are,
 Even where man's foot hath gone not,
 Where there is no sound of calling,
 Hunting, feasting, nor of war cry,
 Nor of singing, weeping, wailing,
 Where not even joy nor pain are—
 Even there Thou art, Great Spirit,
 Brooding over all creation.
 Everything that is, thou knowest,
 Everything that is, thou seest,
 Everything that is, thou willest,
 Everything that is, thou judgest.
 Judge me also, Doh-kay-bahtlh,
 Thou whose wish is strong as law is,
 Whether spoken or unuttered
 Matters not, for Doh-kay-bahtlh,
 Thou art strongest of the people,
 Supernatural and eternal!
 See my wish and what compels it,
 All my heart and what is in it,
 All my being and what thrills it.
 Judge me then, and bending lowly,
 Hear the wish I speak to Thee.