

**AN UNRECOGNIZED FORCE**

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creature he had made. Therefore, so that he might be safe, he hollowed out the great pyramid of ice and snow, as a tepee, and in here he lived for thousands of snows. The Indians knew that he lived there because they could see smoke curling out from the smoke hole in the tepee. When the pale face came, Oelbis went away. There is no longer any smoke from the smoke hole. The white men called the tepee Mt. Shasta." Thus they idealized all the beautiful natural scenes, the mountains, lakes and rivers into quaint stories.

But these primitive people were destined for a higher religion than the worship of nature and this comes to them like the strain of a beautiful chant wafted down through the ages to our prosaic time by the coming of the white man who brought his religion and system of education and civilization. We see the grandmother, the Indian mother and the Indian maiden, of long ago in a haze of romance. They were the burden bearers and represented the strength of the Indian people as well as the foundation of the home. Civilization and education has simply strengthened that force, and thousands of educated, refined and capable Indian girls and women, products of our government and other schools, a good many of them college women, are a force today that must be reckoned with and are rapidly obtaining recognition.

I am personally acquainted with hundreds of Indian women who today are assuming the responsibilities of our higher civilization and standing side by side with their white sisters in performing the women's work of the world, and I may say that there are thousands of educated Indian women that are trained homemakers and good wives and mothers; there are also many filling positions as teachers, office clerks, stenographers, musicians, trained nurses and in many other activities of civilized life. To these I may add no small number of artists, writers and in a few instances professional, which shows that with the same advantages our Indian girls are capable of acquiring the distinction of any race of women. Indeed I have been amazed at the breadth of thought and natural ability shown by the Indian girl.

The Indian maiden is naturally reticent and modest and those who have observed her without studying her nature often find her reserved and timid. Many such characters will be found beautiful, and their minds rich with knowledge and ability. I venture to say that the progress made by the Indian women within the past decade is as great as was made by any people in history.

Like everything else in the history of the world,

all that is best is a "silent force," and in the course of evolution that which was good and noble was often intangible and indefinable, but it swept forward and took its place as a force in shaping the destinies of the world. The noblest traits of centuries of Indian womanhood are the result of an amalgamation of *all good* and, while a "silent force," it has in countless instances carried her to heights rendered sublime by her own high purpose.

I am proud to point to a noble Indian lady who has so capably filled a position as one of the faculty at the Chemawa Indian School for a good many years. Through her own efforts, unassisted (being a widow) she has raised a family of seven, has given them a good high school, business or college education, all of them, except the youngest who is now in college, filling positions of trust. She has raised her family and at the same time taken active interest in every activity at the school and was never too busy but what she took a personal interest in every student. In addition to Mrs. Brewer we have eight other Indian ladies most creditably filling positions as members of the faculty, and they are counted the equal of any and possibly superior to many. These positions include a trained nurse in charge of the hospital, the most competent one ever at the school, two matrons, one academic teacher, music teacher, two office clerks, superintendent of baking, and assistants.

Thus we see that civilization has wrought wonderful changes in the primitive woman, and she is being assimilated into our national life and is doing a definite work in the world.

What the final race problem in America is to be, human wisdom cannot foresee. That there will be an Indian strain in the future American stock is already proven. It will be found that Indian women have contributed a very worthy share to the quality and worth of the future ruling race of the American continent.

[The above splendid paper was read by Mrs. Harwood Hall last Friday morning in Salem at a session of the Oregon State Sunday School Convention and it is at our solicitation that we are permitted to publish it.—Ed.]

**PUPILS' ITEMS**

The second year domestic science girls are studying the composition and care of eggs.

Lawrence Tillotson, one of the seventh grade members, leads the class in arithmetic.

Rachel Gould, assistant in the students' kitchen, who has been ill for a few days, is back on duty.

Gus Gartiez, who left a few weeks ago to enlist in the army, is now stationed at Calexico, California.

A letter was received from George W. Hillman stating that he expected to sail for England before long.

The sixth grade pupils are all working hard studying for a spelling-match which they intend to have soon.