

### An Encouraging Letter From An Old Pupil.

James Stuart writes from Stoney, Idaho: "Please find enclosed 50c in postage stamps for the Weekly CHEMAWA AMERICAN. I am one of the old Chemawa students. I was among the first when started from Fossil Grove, left school in the year 1885, and have ever since been endeavoring to live an honest life, as I was taught in Chemawa School by the dear teachers. I have also filled a very responsible position in the Government service as a civil engineer and am now fighting for the survey of the Government Forest Reservations, and will put my tail in for same. My heart is with the dear old school, and my earnest desire is that Chemawa School will long continue to be a benefit to the Indian race."

Yours Sincerely,

James Stuart.

We note with pleasure the following business heading on Mr. Stuart's letter: "James Stuart, Dealer in Furniture and Undertaking Goods, Hardware, Groceries, Glassware, Sash Doors, Windows Etc., Stoney, Idaho;" which indicates that James has launched out in a good profitable business for himself as we hope to see every young educated Indian do when he leaves school.

### Estelle Reel.

The Annual Report of the Superintendent of Indian Schools has been sent to us. The General Superintendent has outlined a uniform course of study for the students of the Indian Schools, and makes a strong argument for education along practical lines which will improve the Indian's mode of life. In this connection the subject of agriculture is taken up, embracing delimiting and other branches of farm study, as well as domestic sciences for the girls. Speaking of agriculture the Superintendent says:

"The Indian, naturally loves an outdoor life, associated with cattle and horses, and he should be taught to cultivate the allotment the Government has given him, of all the occupations open to any possibility to him that of farming is foremost. No occupation will so soon dispose the Indian of his nomadic instinct and fix upon him permanency of habitation as agriculture. Tilling of the soil will oblige him to remain in one spot, and the perpetrating of certain duties at proper times of the year will inculcate into him the necessity for system-

atic work and for giving attention to details. Furthermore it will make clear to him how much better is the individual ownership of property than the community ownership plan. To make any real advance the Indian must have a home wherein will center all interests, hopes, and ambitions. The softening and civilizing influence of family life will be his greatest boon, and a home on a farm is the one which will best fill these requirements."

We were also interested in the same study in the Indian schools. We give a part of our year.

The aim of all reading, "Mastery of thought and ability to read with expression," should underlie all training. Drill in ready recognition of phrases is still essential, especially all new phrases. See words at the head of the lesson soon to be drilled on the board; their meaning found.

Dictation will be given daily by the teacher. It is expected that each pupil will make a cookbook, containing receipts for cooking everything served in a week's school time. These will necessarily be simple this year, and may be written in situations given by the teacher. The cookbook must contain simple receipts.

Each child must make a book of drawings, of tools used, stitches taken, and directions for sewing. Sample bits of cloth may be added, showing the actual stitches. This book must contain descriptions and drawings of garments cut, fitted and made, with full directions for making each and patterns of each part drawn.

Each child is expected to make a book showing everything learned in the laundry, containing drawings of articles used, and of pupils engaged in the occupation, showing the different stages of the work. The teacher must, by drawing, show the children the correct way to fold each garment after ironing. A full account of the whole process, from taking the articles to the laundry to sending them out, must be written in this book.

The dictionary lesson in gardening will be very full and completed, so that each child may make his book of notes on this subject interesting as well as complete.