

# Weekly Chemawa American.

CHEWAWA, OREGON,

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## POEM.

WISDOM and FORT were two little men  
That knocked at my door again and  
again:  
"Oh, pray let us in but to tarry but a night,  
and we will be off with the dawning of light!"  
At length moved to pity, I opened the door  
To admit these travelers, hungry and poor;  
But when, on the morrow, I laid them  
aside,  
They said, quite unmoved, "We'll tarry  
with you."  
And deaf to entreaty and rallows to threat,  
These troublesome guests abide with me yet.

### Miss Reel of the Indian Schools.

Miss Estelle Reel, superintendent of Indian schools, is the subject of an appreciative article in the December number of American Education, under the somewhat strange head of "School Miss at the Home."

Miss Reel was born in Illinois, from which state she went to Wyoming about twelve years ago. Her special training for the profession of teaching was received in Chicago, St. Louis and Boston; and when she obtained a position in the Cheyenne, Wyo., public schools, her advancement was rapid. She became successively and successfully county and state superintendent of schools, winning distinction by her energy and the originality of her methods.

In her candidacy on the Republican ticket for the position of state superintendent, Miss Reel participated with the other candidates in the work of the campaign, making a three months' tour of the state, and traveling many hundred miles of wagon and stage. She received a larger majority than any other candidate on the ticket, which was elected in its entirety.

As state superintendent Miss Reel was ex-officio secretary of the state board of charities, and ex-officio secretary of the state land board. An instance of her energy and ability is found in the fact that when she took charge, the land board was paying into the state treasury about \$100 a week; in the course of a year she had brought the return up to \$1,000 a week. After two years in this office, she resigned to accept the government position she now holds.

Miss Reel is the first woman who has ever occupied the position of superintendent of Indian schools, but her record has silenced the skeptical criticism that followed her appointment. Many new features have been introduced by her into the system of Indian education. She visits all the schools as frequently as their isolation and the difficulties of travel will permit, and thus keeps in touch with teachers and pupils, and informed of actual conditions.

It is Miss Reel's belief that industrial training should have the foremost place in Indian education; and she urges this with a special reason for the women, namely, that "when you civilize the wife you civilize the home."

The coming from a state which provided for woman's suffrage when its constitution was framed, Miss Reel does not look like a woman suffragist as the type is generally pictured. She is young, gentle, lenient and attractive; she is a charming conversationalist; and tho she disclaims being a public orator, she knows how to address and hold an audience. The popularity that has long been hers in Wyoming is extending to all parts of the country to which her duties call her.—[K.]