

Guatemala's Queer Indians

In Guatemala a race of Indians, the Nahuas, numbering 30,000 souls, live in a gigantic caldron scooped out of the mountains, as it were, in the midst of Cordoba. Four centuries ago, at the time of Spanish conquest, they met Alvarado's army outside of their rocky basin and gave it battle for an entire day, after which both they and the Spaniards appear to have been willing to treat for peace, and terms were agreed upon by which the Nahuas promised to recognize the Spaniards on their part agreeing to leave the Indians alone in the future. And they have been pretty well left alone. They do not allow any stranger from the outside world to reside in their principal city, Santa Catalina, which is at the bottom of the bowl-like country, and they look with suspicion upon any one passing through their dominion. They govern themselves, although the Guatemalan Government pretends to exercise jurisdiction over them. They do not inter-marry with any of the people surrounding them.—Progress.

U. S. INDIAN TRAINING SCHOOL,

CHEMAWA, OREGON, June 16, 1903.

PROPOSALS FOR WOOD:

SEALED PROPOSALS, endorsed "proposals for wood," and addressed to the undersigned at Chemawa, Oregon, will be received at this school until two o'clock p. m., of Tuesday, July 7, 1903, for furnishing and delivering at this school as required during the fiscal year June 30, 1904, 2,000 cords of woods, per specifications and instructions to bidders obtainable at the school. Bidders must state specifically in their bids the proposed price per cord of the wood to be offered for delivery under contract. The wood so offered will be subject to rigid inspection. The right reserved to reject any and all bids, or any part of any bid, is deemed for the best interests of the service. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check or draft upon some United States Depository or solvent National Bank, made payable to the order of

the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, for at least five per cent of the amount of the proposal, which check or drafts will be forfeited to the United States in case any bidder or bidders receiving an award shall fail to execute promptly a contract with good and sufficient sureties in accordance with his bid, otherwise to be returned to the bidder. Bids accompanied by cash in lieu of certified check will not be considered.

For further information apply to

THOMAS W. POTTER,
Superintendent.

A letter has been received from William Mahone, a last year's graduate, stating that he has been on a tour with the Carlisle Indian Band and is now employed as bugler at Bedford Springs Hotel, a large summer resort in the Allegheny mountains. We are glad to know that William is doing so well and feel sure that he will span all rivers that may lay between him and success. Say with it William.

Origin of Flags.

Where in the whole world is another thing, meaningless in itself, that has signified so much or served so greatly in the dramas of national life as the flag?

One tradition says the Saracens first carried an orthodox standard into battle, and thus gave the idea, as they gave so many others, to the crusaders. But, obviously, the flag is far older than this, and it is interesting to note its development from the first inanimated object borne aloft on a staff, so as to be generally visible, down to the complicated blazony of a royal banner in our own ages. The Egyptians thus carried before their hosts the figure of a sacred animal on a spear, and the Assyrians, as their carvings tell us, inspired the hopes and centered the attentions of their soldiers the same way.

The royal standard of the Persians for many centuries was a blacksmith's apron, and it is said a local prince, in passing a hermit's cell on way to battle one morning, asked the mate for his blessing, or something expressive to put on that artless cognizance. The hermit, possibly a