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## An Indian On Education

**Splendid Article by a Keen  
Observer**

When the Anglo-Saxon speaks of industrial education he generally has in mind its skill and intelligence rather than its moral side, yet this latter is the one most needed by the backward races, who have never learned the value of steady habits in industry and independent self-support. The white man with fixed habits of industry can develop the moral side without the inherited resistance with which we have to contend. White boys and girls take up higher branches of industrial education with enthusiasm, fascination, and the firm hope that helps them to rise rapidly to that standard of knowledge which secures them the reward for which they seek. But in the case of Indians, whose permanent habits are so different, we can not suppose that it will succeed quite as fast. From my experience with the Anglo-Saxon civilization, I think I can

see some of the reasons for our discouraging condition. In the first place the Indians naturally wished to live by themselves and continue the life which they believed to be the best. Hence, whenever they are forced to make treaties they always insist upon separation and the other party is only too glad to grant it. In this way the reservation system became established and we have been allowed to remain in barbarism even to this day. In some parts of the country where the tribes are supposed to be in the midst of civilization, we have gone into worse than barbarism because, having lost our primitive virtues and being in our infancy, we can reach only the lowest fruit on the tree. The best grows on the higher branches beyond our reach. The cure is not to amputate our poor hands but to train them to help us, through the training of our heads and our hearts also, to rise higher to where industry becomes cheerful. No man willingly engages in anything he does not love and no intelligent man loves a work that does not interest his mind. Industrial education in its broadest sense awakens his interest and therefore offers and indefinite oppor-