

The Chemawa American

Published Weekly at the United States Indian Training School.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 25 CENTS A YEAR. CLUBS OF FIVE OR OVER 20 CENTS.

Entered at the Chemawa, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class mail matter.

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ALASKA INDIANS.

Portland, Or., Oct. 25. -(To the Editor of the telegram.)—I noticed an article a few days ago which purported to set forth the ideas of one Mr. Fell regarding the position of the missionaries of Alaska with reference to the natives of Alaska.

If all the ideas of Mr. Fell are based on such ignorance of his subject as in this case, he should commence as a child again and see if he cannot get straight with the world. He cites Circle City as an example of what the missionaries have failed to do. The natives had the Gospel taught to them long before Mr. Fell was born, it is more than likely. In those times the natives did not need help to make a living. The same would be true today but for the advent of disreputable white men who brought whiskey and disease. This man in his ignorance complains and rails at the missionary for trying to save the remnant of manhood left by the worthless renegades of white men who have exploited the natives to the extent of his wealth, health and ambition.

Mr. Fell displays his ignorance of the subject in every sentence, and one of the least is in calling the natives of Circle City, Eskimos. He does not know that Eskimos are never found living more

than 100 miles from salt water. The natives of Circle City are Indians pure and simple, and belong to the Athaposean family of Indians, which includes most of the tribes of Northwest North America, even as far south as to include the Apaches. The natives of Alaska from Dawson to Anvik as a people are the wisest, kindest and most lovable and confiding of all the natives of North America. They try to live like white people, and until the coming of evil white men were advancing in all ways of truth and goodness under the teaching of God-fearing missionaries.—A. A. SELDEN, 145 Front Street.

[Last week we published an article on Alaska missions, taken from an interview of a Mr. Fell, of Portland, Oregon, and we wrote a squib stating that any one who understood conditions would give the article only the credence it deserved, but unfortunately our "printer's devil" was too tired to set it up and it was left hanging on the hook. We wish to say that the above article expresses our views and is evidently written by one, who knows and not influenced by commercial or sordid interests.—Editor.]

We have been having foggy mornings and beautiful afternoons and evenings during the week.

We see by the Seattle papers that, two boys, students of the Puyallup Indian school, were killed last Sunday while jumping from a freight train near the school. They were Nelson Sampson, age 18, the son of John Sampson, a Quete Indian of Clearwater, and Daniel Sailto, aged 17, the son of Benjamin H. Sailto, a Quileute Indian of La Push. A third boy Alex Hobucket, a Quileute, was hit by the pilot of the enigne, but he escaped with a few bruises.