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Report on the Inspection of the Chilocco Indian School, Indian Territory Made July 15, 1889

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Report on the Inspection of the Chilocco Indian School, Indian Territory Made July 15, 1889

About

Native American Education, Native American Schools

Identified Persons

Daniel Dorchester; Dr. William C. Riddell; Emma J. Sayers; G.W. Scott; Margaret K. Colbert; Mary Moore; Mrs. N.B. Riddell; W.A. Leonard; W.D. Meyers

Identified Places

Chilocco Indian School; Purcell, Oklahoma

Recipient

Secretary of the Interior

W S Lind Inspector Gen
Kansas City Kans July 15, 1889

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Sir:
I have the honor to submit ~~my~~ ^{the} report
on ~~the~~ ^{my} inspection of the Chillico Training School,
Indian Territory, ^{made July 8 & 12, 1889.} under Department's instructions of Nov-
ember 28 1888 & May 28, 1889.

~~Affairs at the S. Preliminary Observations~~

~~The school~~

~~Affairs at the School.~~

Preliminary Observations

~~As it is~~ ^{the school} being the season of the vacation ~~I am~~
when I visited, it may be said that I did not find it ~~in~~
in its normal condition. There were ^{only} 73 pupils
present on July 11th ~~and I entered only to~~ according
to the ~~rolls~~ ^{rolls} but I counted only 64 at the chapel
services ^{on the day of its day}. A few were sick ~~and~~ a few others may have
been excused. The shops ^{class rooms} were closed ~~and~~ all the male
employees except the clerk, were employed on the farm.
Principal teacher Leonard was ^{reported} at the recesses, re-
sulting pupils, ~~and~~ ~~the~~ teacher Mrs. Riddell was
in Montana on leave of absence. Under those cir-

circumstances I was unable to judge for personal observation of the effectiveness of the work ~~efficiency~~ of the teachers or of the true character of the ~~general~~ ^{several} departments of the school. Dr. Goodchester, superintendent of Indian schools, who ~~was~~ ^{visited} the place under more advantageous circumstances a few months ago, has no doubt reported on these points.

Conduct of Affairs

~~Mr. De~~ Superintendent Schutte impressed me as very well fitted for his position and as energetic & competent. He is what is known in this country as a "rustler" that is, a hard worker. ~~I fear~~ however, that he has ~~no~~ appears to have found the school in a somewhat neglected condition; but February, as to have entered upon the performance of his duties with a vigor which ~~is~~ ^{as necessary} ~~is~~ ^{is} not contemplated by the regulations. He made numerous ^{as large} emergency purchases, removed nearly all the old employes & revolutionized things generally. His conduct has I believe, ^{price} been sanctioned by his superiors. I fear, however, that his desire to farm on a large scale had caused him to neglect other equally important interests. From what I could learn the classes ~~were~~ ^{were} ~~the~~ ^{sadly} more neglected during the past four months. The principal teacher was sent out on the farm with

~~all the large boys as his class~~ ^{room} ~~and~~ ~~all the boys~~
 all the large boys ~~for~~ so that he did very little
 teaching. ~~By doing other work, I was informed,~~
~~The details in the carpenter & tailor shops were cut~~
~~down for the same purpose, as was~~ Mrs. Riddell
 too, I was informed, did not hold the sessions of
 her class regularly. * The commencement ^{exercises} this year
 were therefore almost abandoned all the energy of
 the school having been expended on the farm.

The details in the blacksmith, carpenter &
 tailor shops were cut down to almost a quite nothing
 due to the interests of the farm.

There is no doubt ~~but~~ the wonders have been
 accomplished on the farm & the superintendent
 is entitled to much credit for it. But it may be
 a question for the Ind. Office to determine whether
 everything should be sacrificed to farming. All the
 school horses ^{including those purchased a few months ago} & mules ^{are} broken down by
 over-work on the farm & the large boys com-
 plain so much of making the farm hands
 instead of pupils of an industrial school that
 the superintendent could not hold the day
 the vacation as it is very doubtful whether
 many of them can be induced to return to
 the school. ~~The parents of many of the pupils are~~
~~to the school recently to protect property of the same kind as to~~
 Discipline was somewhat relaxed when I was
 at the school, it being vacation ^{time}, but I fear that
 sufficient precaution is not taken to keep the girls

~~with the~~

*

Mrs. Collett's class appears to have been the only one that was taught with any regularity. She is spoken of by dissimilar parties as a competent teacher.

under surveillance. There have been no scandals, ^{so far as I could learn,} but I think that it would be well to take steps so that they will not come later. ~~The~~ ~~limits~~ clearly defined limits to the ~~grounds~~ ^{grounds} where the girls may walk out with a teacher accompanying them, should, I think, be established.

The matron Mrs. Sayers, who is the farm's wife, did not impress me as a suitable person for her position. A lady of some ^{and of appropriate} education should fill the place of matron. If the Ind. Off. could send such a lady as ^{is} Mrs. Cannon who was sent to the Geneva school ^{to the Chillicothe school!} I think that it would ~~be~~ materially elevate the Chillicothe school.

I found the buildings as clean as in as good condition as circumstances permit. The main building although new is in bad condition, the plastering is falling down almost everywhere, on account of the poor workmanship of the builders.

The Farm

The farm is truly wonderful for its size & good condition. ~~for the Ind. country.~~ I took pains to examine it carefully as I never saw anything like it before in the Ind. country. There are 225 acres in corn, 90 acres in oats, 50 acres in wheat, 15 acres in

potatoes, 10 acres in sugar cane, 7 acres in melons,
4 acres in millet & a few acres besides. There
is also a garden of 10 acres in every village
vegetables. Between 600 & 700 trees have
been planted into apple orchards & other orchards.

The season is exceptionally good for farming &
the crops are most promising.

There is a very large herd of cattle besides
the milch & cows - too many I should judge.
Some of them are stags & a few are diseased
with "big jaw". One of the 3 bulls recently pur-
chased could not be found as a specific search
for him was being made when I left the school.
The hog room is a pen of 20 acres. There are
so many of them that their increase is ascertained
by counting them ^{as well as by} at the end of each quarter.
I found a pig in the fence he being unable
to extricate himself from the trap which
he made for himself by trying to squeeze between
the boards.

There was severe reports of the chickens &
upon inquiry I learned that one brood of 15
had been hatched under one of the buildings, &
that they had been killed by wild animals.

* The only private work done, ~~there~~ was a few pairs of shoes
but there were made after making houses with ~~of~~ materials
fished by the employees who had the work done. Some of the
army officers' houses have been shod in the blacksmith shop
but ^{it's better for accounts} the ~~could~~ did the work ^{out of their own} ~~with~~ materials.

the presence of an old woman named Moore, (the mother of the seamstress), who appears to me to be a competitor for her position.

The Superintendent's Accounts.

The accounts are prepared by clerk Riddell who is a ready penman & a good accountant. The accounts for the quarter ended June 30 1889 were nearly completed. Both the superintendent & the clerk are familiar with the system of accountability of the old service & they under will prepare accounts.

I have no doubt about the ~~money~~ funds being honestly disbursed.

In all the reports of ^{the} inspections I have made I have called attention to certain facts entering into the accounts of agents & superintendents & I have frequently recommended that funds be placed to the credit of disbursements at the beginning of the quarter instead of at its close, to enable the officers to do a cash business & to ^{do away with the} ~~inconvenience~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~accounts~~. As I never hear from my reports I have no means of knowing whether ~~my~~ my views are approved by the Department or whether I am considered as holding impractical notions on the subject. I presume that it is my duty to ~~make~~ ^{act upon} my own interpretation of the regulations & ~~to~~ ^{to} assume

necessity for facts as well as to avoid complaints

that my ^{own} views ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~methods~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~paper~~ ~~method~~ ~~of~~ ~~preparing~~ ~~accounts~~ ~~are~~ ~~correct~~ ~~until~~ ~~I~~ ~~am~~ ~~instructed~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~contrary~~, ~~and~~ ~~I~~ ~~will~~ ~~therefore~~ ~~report~~ ~~certain~~ ~~matters~~ ~~in~~ ~~order~~ ~~on~~ ~~Scott's~~ ~~accounts~~, ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~view~~ ~~to~~ ~~bring~~ ~~his~~ ~~properly~~ ~~into~~ ~~it~~ ~~if~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~entirely~~ ~~right~~ ~~in~~ ~~his~~ ~~method~~ ~~and~~ ~~practices~~, ~~in~~ ~~which~~ ~~he~~ ~~and~~ ~~I~~ ~~differ~~.

I hold that every statement on an account, ~~and~~ ~~abstract~~, ~~vouch~~ ~~and~~ ~~certificates~~ must be true in every particular.

I found Mr. Scott's account current for the quarter ended June 30 1889, filled out ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~figures~~ ~~dated~~ ~~June~~ ~~30th~~. ~~and~~ ~~now~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~impossible~~ ~~for~~ ~~a~~ ~~dealing~~ ~~officer~~ - especially when funds are placed to his credit at the close of the quarter - to close out his quarterly accounts on the last day of the quarter. ~~As~~ ~~I~~ ~~noticed~~ ~~that~~ ~~all~~ ~~the~~ ~~accounts~~ ~~abstracts~~, ~~vouch~~ ~~and~~ ~~certificates~~ were dated June 30th, although not more than one-half of the were signed by the employees ~~and~~ ~~others~~ ~~whose~~ ~~signatures~~ ~~are~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~affixed~~ ~~to~~ ~~them~~ ~~before~~ ~~they~~ ~~are~~ ~~com-
pleted~~. My knowledge of accounts ~~intended~~ ~~came~~ ~~me~~ ~~to~~ ~~believe~~ ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~year~~ ~~was~~ ~~closed~~ - that either (1) the account was drawn to ~~in~~ ~~blank~~ or (2) that it was drawn to ~~in~~ ~~July~~ ~~and~~ ~~dated~~ ~~back~~. Mr. Scott admitted that the account was drawn to on the night of July 1st ~~and~~ ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~notary~~ ~~had~~ ~~ante-dated~~ ~~his~~ ~~certificate~~. He claimed that the regulations

requires him to date all his quarterly papers
at the last day of the quarter ~~from~~ ^{before} ~~whenever~~ ^{whenever}
they were actually prepared a month after the
expiration of the quarter, which is the time allowed
in which to prepare them. He pointed to the
forms given as examples in the Regulations of
1884 as his authority for entering fictitious in
his accounts.

Per se this is not a very important matter
but it leads to great abuses in other things
that are essential. If one may make a false
statement in the matter of the oath ~~to the~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the}
what fictitious may ~~not~~ ^{be} introduced into ~~the~~ ^{the}
certificates of ~~the~~ ^{the} property condemned, issued ^{at}
pendent, of money paid to unsuspecting ~~people~~ ^{people} =
players, &c. I hold that absolute truth in
all statements should be exacted of all ~~the~~
officers & employees.

There is another matter about the oath. The
oath is ~~a~~ ^{an} appointed oath is not
for the county in which Arkansas City, Kans. is
located yet the inspectors took him to
the school in Indian Territory & the oath was
administered there.

All the ^{other} oaths in the quarterly reports are given
to the same object. One half of the certificates
and other oaths which I saw dated but unsigned
will also have false dates when presented to the
Indian Office. It is noted that a certificate is made

is this that they receive nothing at the time of signing for their wages,

& the pay-rolls of irregular employees are not absolutely true. It is my opinion to get Indian children to sign some pay-rolls at one time. They cannot in the course of things know who they are signing for; then it takes so much time - a week, about - then the mistresses who saw the signing cannot always see the payments although they certify to truth. Then an Indian cannot appreciate ~~any~~ the benefits of saving money when he has to wait months for it. While ~~the~~ irregular employees cannot wait ~~eight~~ by the month or day cannot wait three months, especially after they are discharged & the result is that they get their pay in some irregular way & the pay-rolls have fictitious initials in them in order to meet the requirements of the laws.

There is another argument in favor of the agent doing a cash business. Open market purchases are made at a rate above ^{and} cash business, ninety days delay is calculated upon & the prices of supplies are advanced accordingly.

cash (school, money) is necessary at all times to me to travel to the agents after pupils spent but I could have been obliged to borrow money at heavy interest to send for this paper.

There is in Superintendent Scott's accounts a voucher in the name of Dr. Riddell which contains two sub-vouchers in the names of ^{two} Inds of the ~~Western~~ Kiama agency, for \$25.00 each - (I cannot now state the number or quarter, but they are witnessed by Agt & Meyers, ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~the~~ ^{at} ~~date~~ ^{date} May 22, 1889) which ~~illustrates~~ ^{shows} how fictitious entries creep into accounts for the ~~lack~~ want of money. Dr. Riddell had two Inds being pupils for ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~sent~~ ^{sent} \$25.00 to each of them ^{for their services.} At Porcell he lacked money & he gave them \$2.50 each, ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~sent~~ ^{sent} the remainder due to Anadarko. This was done several days later. The sub-vouchers show ^{in each case} a payment of \$25.00 at Porcell in each case on May 22nd with Agt & Meyers as witnesses ^{at Porcell.} ~~As a matter of fact~~ ^{the} ~~sub-vouchers were signed at Anadarko,~~ ^{not at Porcell,} the sub-vouchers are ~~untrue~~ ^{fictitious} - this ~~is~~ ^{is} (1) that Agt & Meyers ~~did~~ ^{did} ~~witness~~ ^{witness} the Inds' marks at Porcell, (2) ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~paid~~ ^{paid} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Inds~~ ^{Inds} ~~\$25.00~~ ^{was out of} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~Porcell~~ ^{Porcell} ~~but~~ ^{but} ~~only~~ ^{only} \$22.50 ^{at} (3) that the ~~sub-vouchers~~ ^{sub-vouchers} were not signed on the 22nd but later.

3 I held that any money coming into the possession of an agent or superintendent by reason of his official office is misappropriation.

Superintendent Scott has in his possession some

mess. I do not know whether the Department
~~approves of this or not.~~ ~~Intends that~~
 intends that such products should be sold to the
 for the benefit of the school ~~employees~~ and reported on abstracts of articles sold
 to employees. Superintendent Scott says that he had
 a private garden at Fort Stearns school and
 that he was interested by an inspector that the em-
 ployees could use the products of the school gar-
 den as though all the needs of the labor came
 out of the appropriation "Support of School".

Concluding Observations.

Taken all in all I regard the Chillicothe
 School ^{as} in a prosperous condition and ^{as} ~~well~~
 well conducted. I think, however, that more at-
 tention should be given to the educational interests
 of the institution, ^{to the grades} and that a first class matron
 should be selected for the States. It will be a
 difficult matter to fill the school after the vaca-
 tion and some assistance should be given the super-
 tendent, by finding ^{the money} funds ^{promptly} and by instructing the
 agents to ~~send~~ furnish him with the amount of advanced
 pupils for the recess schools.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Very respectfully yours

Edw. J. Halliday
 Indian Inspector

U. S. Indian Inspector Service

Arkansas City, Kansas

July 15 1889

Edmond Mallett

Indian Inspector

Report on his inspection
of the Lubiano Indian
School, Indian Territory,
made July 8-12, 1889.
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