

Office of Indian Rights Association
1305 Arch Street, Phila., Pa.
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THE PRESENT NEED OF THE INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE

The subject of Indian education has been discussed in all its phases until the public have reached an agreement on the essential principles involved. It may now be assumed as established that the Indian is capable of civilization; that education is essential to his preparation for citizenship; that it is the duty and the privilege of the Government to educate him; that provision should be made for giving to all Indian children of school age a common school, English, and industrial education, and that this should be done as speedily as possible. All this is clearly demanded by public sentiment of the country.

Under the present administration of the Indian Bureau the Indian schools have been brought to a degree of efficiency never before reached. Old buildings have been repaired and enlarged and new ones have been constructed, a course of study has been devised and put into successful operation, a uniform series of text-books has been selected, the attendance has been largely increased, the morale of the teaching force greatly elevated. The testimony of General Morgan, a Commissioner of Indian Affairs, who has just returned from a ninety days' tour of observation, of Honorable Daniel Dorchester, Superintendent of Indian Schools, who has been almost continuously in the field for more than a year and a half, of General Whittlesey, Secretary of the Board of Indian Commissioners, and of Professor C. C. Painter, of the Indian Rights Association, both of whom have recently returned from a visit of inspection, and of others who have personal knowledge of the subject, is explicit and emphatic as to the great improvement that has been wrought in the Government schools, their present satisfactory condition and the hopeful outlook for the future.