

# PRINEVILLE NEWS

SATURDAY, JAN. 10, 1891.

## Our Trip to the Agency.

There is a surprisingly large number of the residents of Crook and Wasco counties who have never visited the Warm Springs Agency, which agency lies wholly within the counties mentioned, embracing territory in each; and a great many of the residents referred to are pioneer settlers. We have resided in Prineville nearly nine years, and plead guilty to the dereliction of privilege, if not duty, above mentioned, until last Monday, on which day Messrs. R. P. Harrington, Sam G. Cline, Alfred Allen and ourself got our things together and visited the Indian agency above named.

This agency is situated in Crook county about five miles south of the Wasco county line, and about forty five miles from this town. It is rather picturesquely located, being built near the junction of two small mountain streams, tributaries of the Deschutes, and surrounded more or less with unclothed mountains, beautiful and fertile valleys, and miles and miles of bold rimrock.

We found everybody at home, and all apparently glad to welcome us, especially the ruling spirit over there, viz, our old time, genial friend Agent Luckey and his very companionable wife. The Indian children—the boys—were playing ball, the white employees were all busy in their several avocations, and everything and everybody about the premises appeared to move and act with the steadiness and regularity of clock-work. We arrived in the evening—

just before sundown—and darkness soon put a veto on our well begun sight-seeing. But Rev. Mr. Walker, the efficient and worthy superintendent of the school, assembled the Indian pupils in the school room about 7 P. M., where we were agreeably entertained for an hour with their wonderfully good singing. Miss Sallie Pitt, herself an Indian girl, who is daughter of the educated and well-known Indian, Charley Pitt, presided at the organ, of which instrument she is perfect master. Her playing was excellent and well timed, and the Indian children, of whom there are about sixty-eight in the school, sang with a heartiness and cheering good will that would do credit to an ordinary well trained singing school of whites. We attribute their remarkable success in this particular to their earnest and faithful instructor Mr. Walker.

On the following day—Tuesday—, guided by Agent Luckey, we were shown through the commissary, different workshops, grist mill, laundry, meat market, cookery, sleeping apartments of the Indian school children, convenient water works, Clerk Lester's and Industrial Teacher Hinman's apartments, the postoffice, which is kept by Mrs. Hinman, the burying ground, and other special places of interest too numerous to mention. It was—to us especially—an interesting all-day walk, and we only regret that we have not the space in which to publish a detailed description of all these places of interest and the orderly and quiet manner in which they are managed.

Mr. S. A. Lester, the efficient clerk, has been an employee at this agency about five years, and is the right man in the right place. Mr. Hinman, the industrial teacher, has his hands full daily in teaching the Indian boys all the modern methods of necessary labor. The girls work under similar instructions in a separate department. Mrs. Jackson, whose father is a pioneer settler of Wasco county, has charge of the sewing department, where the Indian girls are taught the essential feature of fastening on buttons, mending, etc. Miss Sallie

Pitt, an educated Indian girl, assists in the cooking department, which department is under the perfect management of Mrs. J. N. Blair. Miss Irene Hopple, a former resident of the far eastern city of Philadelphia, is missionary girl. This young lady goes about among the Indians—from house to house—and imparts religious instruction to a once benighted people. Her task is certainly a very arduous one. Mrs. Walker, wife of the superintendent of the school, is matron, and her portion of official duty is performed with a cheerful willing-

ness akin to that love for enlightenment which can only be prompted by sacrifice of self. Mrs. J. C. Luckey is assistant teacher in the school, and, as Mrs. Luckey is so well known as an educator, it is not necessary for us to speak of her efficiency here. Mr. Star is daily employed in giving to the older heads of the agency full and complete instructions in preparing the ground, planting and sowing, culturing, harvesting and garnering the-cereal and vegetable crops grown adjacent to the agency.

All in all, the daily routine of work performed at the Warm Spring Agency is not unlike the regular and timely work of a time-piece. Lack of space forbids further mention at this time. Our especial thanks are due Mr. and Mrs. Luckey for their courteous treatment of us during our brief sojourn with them. If Mr. Luckey should live one hundred years longer, the Indians would claim him as their best advisor.