

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

to do anything for him, I answer none at all. This is just like sending out to work and nothing to work with. Now, let us make laws and give our chiefs some authority to work, and they can work; they will make a good crop for the nation.

I hope they will all agree (if they [have] not agreed already) to go to work and make laws for our government, and authorize the chiefs to put these laws in force, so all of us may be protected in possession of our property and in our person. This is my wish, but of course, is nothing more in my part than a wish.

I am, sirs, yours respectfully,

Thomas J. Wildcat²

EDITING AND PRINTING

The readers of the "WORKMAN" will be interested to know that the matter contained in the Indian Column of the page called the Hampton Students' Own is gotten up exclusively by the Indians. Most of the writing is done by a Pawnee boy,³ who also sets the type for their column. He takes a great deal of interest in it. He has a friend at Carlisle learning the same trade, both are trying to make all the progress they can, so that they can carry on the business together when they return home. At present, we have only two boys working in the printing office; there are others who want to learn the trade, but the confinement is not thought good for their health.

PREPARING FOR HOME

As the Indians begin to realize that their stay here is now very short, they take hold of their studies and work with more interest.

Once it was a task to get them to go to work promptly; now they give almost no trouble, many going to work before the time. Saturday is given to them as a holiday, but some prefer to spend a good part of it in improving themselves in their trades.

The following application will speak for itself:

Indian Cottage, Oct. 30, 1880

Gen. Armstrong: as I told James Murrie that I want to work all the time, that is to work every day except Sundays, and go to night-school as I am advanced in Primary books, I want to learn how to be a good farmer like Mr. Cock, so when I go home I can just go right ahead and work on a place which I will pick out for myself, and also teach my people how to be farmers, and besides, I want to be with