

Over the Territory.

Editor Citizen:—In the message of the Principal Chief there is this statement as printed in the INDIAN CITIZEN. "And I believe it would be better if the remaining academies were superintended by our people instead of foreigners who can have no interest except gain in coming among us." The sentence as it stands without any qualifications is misleading. It seems to disparage the efforts of the faithful missiona-

rics who have lived so long in our midst; and through whose piety and faithful self-sacrificing labor our nation has long been elevated to its present position, and outsiders may get the idea that we are all down on the missionaries and their labors that we consider their motive for coming here as purely mercenary. I said "it seems" because I feel sure the Principal Chief does not intend to leave this impression.

For one I am unwilling that the Christian world and especially those that have done so much for our country should think that this is our estimate of their labors. The assertion is too sweeping to say that foreigners without exception, come among us to make money. Of course we are talking about School Superintendents. There are non-citizens in the nation who are here for the purpose of making money. It is natural to suppose that all non-citizens outside of the missionaries are here to better their condition financially. But the missionaries here lead us to the knowledge of God "whom to know

aright is life eternal." Now there may be some missionaries among us who under the pretence of a "high and holy calling" may be looking for money, but all know that it is not the case with all the missionaries nor is it the case with the majority of them. So it gives a wrong idea when we read the sentence quoted above, and I am sure the Principal Chief and all good men will second all I say on this subject.

Not one of the representative

Not one of the representative men in this nation will say anything but good of those men whose names are household words, such men as Hotchkiss, Kingsbury, Byington, Copland, Stark, and others who came lived and labored and most of whom died among us. They came to do us good and all they possess of our land is the space for them to rest their wearied bodies till Jesus comes. But the good they have done we all acknowledge. I recall a speech Judge Vinson made a few years ago at one of the academy gatherings, when he said that what we are to-day we owe to these good men who gave their

these good men who gave their lives for our enlightenment in the way of salvation.

From reports from two sources I know that the Principal Chief feels in the same way, and that the impression left by the sentence quoted above does not do him justice.

Again take two men that I know personally and we will see the truth that all missionaries are not here for money.

Mr. J. J. Read who was Superin-

Mr. J. J. Read who was Superintendent of Spencer Academy when I was a student at that institution and who is among us today. A man known for his integrity and missionary zeal. Now let us see. He was pastor of the Presbyterian church at Houston Texas, his salary when he left was \$2,100 a year, his marriage fees amounted to about \$300, and the gifts and presents of necessary articles as tokens of affection and esteem that pastors beloved of their people are accustomed to, amounted to possibly as much more. These things I learned from Mr. Read in

conversation with him. So without the latter named presents his annual income was \$2,400. Now when the board was looking for a man to fill the vacancy at Spencer, Mr. Read's name was suggested and he accepted and took the position at an annual salary of \$800. Now then he paid for the board of his family while at Spencer but his reports are in the possession of the Nation and will speak for themselves.

Again Mr. Ballston the present

Again Mr. Rallston the present Supt. of Armstrong Academy I know personally. I know, the circumstances of his coming to this Ter. and I am certain he did not come here to make money. Mr. Read and myself went to Sherman, Texas to meet Dr. J. N. Creig of Alanta, Ga., the secretary of the Home Mission Board, and Mr. Rallston, to persuade him to accept the Supt. of Armstrong Academy. He was the pastor of the Presbyterian church at Denton, Texas and did not want to come here but was willing to do what was his duty. I remember the conflict in his mind, and joy and relief we felt when he decided to come to us. I know the man well enough to know the idea of making money was not what

brought him here. His reports
which are before the council chal-
lenge investigation and surely the
council can see where the money
has gone. An itemized business
statement ought to be there giving
account of every dollar invested.
And I am sure that he is not aim-
ing to make anything out of the
Nation, and so we might mention
John Edwards and others. But
these things are well known and
I feel sure the Principal Chief
values the services of these and
other good men like these but
what he means is there are some
men among us who are doing more
harm than good, but do not let the
actions of a few cast a stigma upon
all the earnest christian men and

all the earnest christian men and women who are in our midst. Investigate and specify and let the guilty be put out. If any one of the Supt. of the schools are thinking more of the dollar than of the good of children put him out for that matter whether he be foreigner or citizen.

I am glad for one the Principal Chief is against having men put over our schools who are after money. I heard of a citizen who went to a minister, who was a candidate for Supt. of one of the Chickasaw schools, and said Mr. R. you have a salary why don't you drop out of the race and give me a chance. This man wanted a living evidently

and in my humble opinion did not have the qualifications necessary to superintend a literary institution but I am certain he knew how to run a boarding house, and was a good man and citizen, and highly respected, but not the man for a school.

Our schools are not feeding pens. They are places of instruction and preparations for citizenship. And suitable men ought to be in charge of them. Certainly the least requirement should be that the men who seek the highest interest of the children, and are good moral men, and have education enough to know what standard the children ought to attain, and whether teachers under him are doing their duty by

under him are doing their duty by the children.

Whether the Academies are under non-citizens or citizens we want christian men at the head of these institutions so that we may feel safe about our children who attend these schools that their higher spiritual interest are not overlooked while they are seeking a preparation for greater usefulness in the world. The missionaries are here to break to us the bread of life and let due credit be given to the worthy while we see the unworthy men, citizens or non-citi-

zens have nothing to do with our schools. Frank H. Wright

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