

WOMAN'S HIGH POST

Miss Reel Director of All Government Indian Schools.

Is Best Paid Employe of Her Sex on Rolls of Uncle Sam—Daughter of Choctaw Chief Raises Chickens.

Washington.—During the first days of the big upheaval in the department of the interior Secretary Ballinger sent out orders to practically every department under his control that more work and better work should be done in the future. In issuing his orders the secretary of the interior did not overlook the women employes of his depart-



Miss Estelle Reel.

ment, and Miss Estelle Reel, superintendent of Indian schools, was notified that she must spend more time in the field.

The mention of Miss Reel's name by the secretary of the interior brings to mind the fact that she is the highest paid woman in the government service, drawing a salary of \$3,000 a year. She was appointed to the government position in 1898 and is an authority on every tribe of Indians in North America.

That women are equal to government positions of extraordinary importance has been proved in the case of Miss Reel. Although she is a native of Illinois, Miss Reel has spent the greater part of her life in Wyoming. She served as district, county and state superintendent of schools in Cheyenne, Wyo., but before she obtained the last position she was compelled to overcome enormous opposition. The politicians out in that part of the country were not anxious to see a woman in the state superintendency and every obstacle was placed in the way of her election.

Finally it was pointed out that the law required the state superintendent to auction off certain tracts of government lands to prospective lessees, and that this could not be done by a woman. Miss Reel said that was a small matter and that she was equal to it. She was elected to the office finally and later proved her ability as an auctioneer by successfully carrying out this part of the state superintendent's duty.

Miss Reel speaks none of the languages of the Indians over whom she has control, but has been signally successful in her administration. She has 279 schools, aggregating an attendance of 25,634 pupils. In addition to these students there are 2,423 employes, 572 of whom are Indians, under management. This branch of its service costs the government more than \$3,000,000 a year, and Miss Reel is the administrator of the appropriation.

She is an experienced horsewoman, and in the course of the year is compelled to ride hundreds of miles on horseback and in stage coach to the various reservations, many of them being great distances from the railroad and only accessible in this way. Miss Reel is a skilled politician, and has

participated actively in several presidential campaigns. She is a fine speaker, and has not only appeared many times on the stump, but has cast her vote at the polls out in Wyoming, where women have that privilege.

There is a fair field at Washington for women to assert their ability and independence in the world of achievement, and Miss Reel's case is by no means the only one where a woman has proved her claim to recognition. Her work among the Indians is reflected in the accomplishments of the clever Indian girl who is not in the employ of the Indian government, but who lives in Washington, hundreds of miles away from her people's home out on the plains.

Sophia Pritchlyn is the daughter of a Choctaw chief and is a princess of her tribe, but she lives here in a modest little home at 1104 Sixth street, Northwest, the back yard of which has been converted into a poultry "farm" and she has more than three hundred prize winning single-comb brown Leg horns which have won blue ribbons in Madison Square garden, Boston, Baltimore, Hagerstown and practically every other city in the east where large poultry exhibits are held.

TO WED SON OF PRETENDER

Engagement of Miss Anita Stewart to Dom Miguel of Braganza Is Announced.

New York.—The announcement of the engagement of Dom Miguel of Braganza, the eldest son of the pretender to the crown of Portugal, and Miss Anita Stewart is of great interest to all those concerned with the romance of history and the world may yet see an American queen reigning as queen-consort over one of the oldest kingdoms of Europe, despite the reported renunciation of rights by the pretender. The Miguelist party has on its side many of the ancient and wealthy families of Portugal, and should any thing happen to the youthful King, or should he die a natural death without children, Dom Miguel might easily be called to the throne, as was the father of the present king of Spain. The prince, who is a fine-looking young man, was born in 1878 and was educated in Austria. He speaks several



Miss Anita Stewart.

languages perfectly, and has been very often seen in London society. It was doubtless thus that he met pretty Miss Anita Stewart, who is a daughter by a first marriage of Mrs. James Henry Smith. The latter has been the tenant of the duchess of Somerset, at whose beautiful house in Grosvenor square she has done a good deal of entertaining. Miss Stewart is clever and fascinating, and last year was seen a great deal in town under the chaperonage of her aunt, Mrs. Anthony Drexel.

Free Will in the Nursery.

The nursery that is just a little strict as well as tender is the happiest. A child who gets every single thing he wants the moment he demands it is robbed of his fair measure of delight. Things withheld are the things valued.—London Lady.

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