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CAUSES OF OUR INDIAN WARS.

It is not always easy to get satisfactory evidence upon the question as to who is to blame, the white man or the Indian, for the constantly recurring difficulties and wars between them. Perhaps, however, there is no one more competent, by military experience and personal observation, to form an intelligent opinion of that question than General Sherman, and he has expressed the belief that the uniform injustice to the Indians, and the many outrages perpetrated against them by the whites, have been the chief causes of the wars which have caused the loss of many thousands of lives and millions of treasure. A meeting was lately held in New York upon the subject, at which a memorial to Congress was adopted, which says:

Among the chief causes of these wars, which have entailed the loss of many lives and been the pretext upon which the people of the United States have been robbed of millions of hard earned treasure, we enumerate the following:

1. The dissatisfaction of the Indians in consequence of having sometimes been betrayed into the cession of good lands by pretended treaties.
2. The constant failure of the government to fulfill in good faith its treaty obligations with the tribes.
3. The frequent and unprovoked outrages and murders of Indians by soldiers and white citizens.
4. The impossibility of obtaining justice in local courts, or of punishing white criminals, for the reason that the testimony of Indians is not allowed in those courts.
5. The unlawful occupation, by the whites, of lands not ceded nor treated for.
6. The shameful fact, that of all the appropriations made by Congress for their benefit, but a small part ever reaches them.

At the same meeting Bishop Whipple, of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, made a speech and a report, which, after the meeting, a motion of Mr. Peter Cooper, resulted in petition Congress to allow Bishop Whipple to read before them. Bishop Whipple declared in his speech that the treaties made with the Indians, though ostensibly for their civilization, are merely means to fill the pockets of plunderers, and the conduct of the employees of the government, who are often tempted to steal by the small pay they receive, drives the Indians to war. The Bishop then spoke of the recent war, for which he thought the Indians had ample grounds, and which would have been considered so by every civilized people of the earth. Not only their lands, but their activities, were taken away, their wives and daughters outraged, and other direct wrongs inflicted on them. The speaker contended that the Indian Bureau must be reformed and a cabinet officer put at the head of it; all the employees to be men of good moral character, and the peace commission enlarged by adding to it the best men in the country to carry out that object. Bishop Kemper, of Wisconsin, a venerable man, eighty years of age, said that the tenant of the famous Six Nations, removed from the State of New York many years ago, were placed on a reserve in his diocese, and it was gratifying to perceive how they had improved in civilization and increased in numbers. They lived, like the whites, in houses, and many of them were Christians, over one hundred being communicants. Yet still the white man persecuted them, and already the demand for their lands was so clamorous that they were likely to succumb to the war on politicians, who, for the most part, filled the positions of Indian agents. Statements like these, coming from impartial and well informed sources, call for thorough investigation by Congress and a reform of existing abuses. Thus much is due, if not to the public conscience, which may or may not trouble itself about alleged expressions of the weak, at least to the public treasury, which ought to be saved the drain of these Indian wars, if they can be honorably avoided.

Mississippi has, in some sections, raised thousands of men this year.

SURVEY OF THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY.

Washington, Oct. 14.—The commissioner of the General Land Office has received advice from United States Astronomer Darling, designated by the Secretary of the Interior to determine the survey and mark the northern boundary of New Mexico, stating that the party had reached the Rio Grande, one hundred and forty eight miles west of the initial point on the 6th ultimo.

The eastern part of the line passes over a region of country which has never before been traversed by white men. It was generally supposed that it was a beautiful rolling prairie. Col. Darling represents the first twenty miles of the line west of the initial point as a rolling plain covered with a luxuriant growth of nutritious grass, but destitute of wood or water.

The next fifty miles of the line is over an exceedingly rugged region; the general character of the country is comparatively level, but it is intersected by numerous canyons with almost perpendicular walls, in some instances twelve hundred feet high. Deposits of iron occur in great abundance over all this distance, and was sufficient to cause a change of twenty-six degrees in the magnetic needle in going the distance of a quarter of a mile.

The Cimarron river which the party had occasion to traverse for over one hundred and fifty miles, is almost dry during the summer season, the water standing only in stagnant pools. The valley of that stream is from one-half to five miles wide, and will become a most valuable agricultural region, while the uplands are clothed with a fine growth of good grass and will become valuable as grazing lands. Approaching the headwaters of the Cimarron river, water becomes more plentiful. For six weeks the party were compelled to supply themselves with water from pools formed in the ledges of rocks collected by rains; but in coming near the Raton mountains an abundant supply of pure cold water was found in the small mountain streams which resemble those in Pennsylvania.

The line crosses the summit of the snowy range of the Raton mountains one hundred and twenty-five miles west of the initial point. The party crossed the summit August 30th, and it was then covered with snow. The line passes through the town of La Cuesta, leaving the largest portion in New Mexico; it is a Mexican town, constructed of adobe, or dried unburnt clay blocks, about three times the size of common brick, and contains some sixteen hundred inhabitants. It is situated on the eastern border of San Louis valley, watered by the Rio Grande and its tributaries, and one of the finest agricultural and grazing districts in the United States.

This valley contains a large number of settlers, who engage in agriculture to a limited extent, but are chiefly interested in raising sheep and cattle; a branch of industry which proves highly remunerative, from the fact that stock graze in the valley throughout the year and require no feeding. Notwithstanding the reputed hostilities of the Indians in that quarter, the party was not molested beyond being compelled to divide supplies with a war party of Kiowas.

The astronomer has pursued his labors with energy, and expects to complete his work by the middle of November. The whole length of the line is three hundred and twenty miles.

Taxing to Live on His Salary.—The Hartford Post is responsible for the story of a conductor on a road not a thousand miles from Hartford, who had agreed, in the kindness of his heart, to pass a poor penniless fellow on his train. An officer of the road sitting in the same car with the man, observed that the conductor took no fare of him, and called him to account for it. "Why do you pass that man?" said the treasurer. "Oh, he's a conductor on the railroad." "He's a conductor? why what makes him dress so shabbily?" "Oh, he's trying to live on his salary" was the quick reply. Mr. Treasurer saw the point and dropped the subject.

GENERAL GRANT'S ELECTION.

The election yesterday resulted in the triumphant election of General U. S. Grant for President, and the Hon. Schuyler Colfax for Vice President. The Democracy made as good a fight as could have been expected under the circumstances surrounding the party. In that fight we have been defeated, and we submit to the will of the people as at all times, right and proper, whether for or against us.

General Grant is now entitled to receive a fair trial in the Executive chair, and we hope that the Democratic party will, as far as in their power, support and sustain him. He has had the wisdom to keep his own councils, to hold his tongue between his teeth, and now, unpledged to any party, and uncommitted to any policy, he becomes President of the United States.

His election may be made the triumph of real conservative sentiments; for though the candidate of Radical extremists, and elevated by that party, he had to be taken by them notwithstanding the uniform conservatism that marked his course of conduct, as well during the war as since the return of peace. No single sentiment of extreme Radicalism could be extracted from him even to serve the purposes of a most excited canvass. His simple "Let us have peace" was a conservative interpolation upon the Chicago platform, indicating but little sympathy with the extreme views of Radical leaders.

It will not surprise us if before a year has rolled round, the Democratic party shall be called upon to rally to the support of General Grant, as they were compelled to come to that of President Johnson. He cannot lend the power and influence of his exalted position to the violence of the party that has elected him; he will be conservative of the Constitution, and give the weight of his influence to the promotion of true and genuine reconstruction. Unless he throws himself, body and soul, into the hands of the extreme men of his party, they will war upon him as they did upon President Johnson.

If they still hold his hands tied by unconstitutional legislation, and divest him of his constitutional powers, as they did President Johnson, a rupture in the party is irresistible. If they restore to him his rightful prerogative, he has the popular voice with him so potent and powerful that he will find it more to his interest to be true and just to his country, rather than violent and prescriptive at the demands of his party.

General Grant will be no puppet in the hands of party leaders; he demonstrated in the field of battle an individuality and will which wholly precludes the idea of his being used by any man or set of men to do the behests of his party against the interests of his country. We therefore bespeak a cordial and hearty support of the Democratic party for General Grant, believing him entitled to it from his election, as well as from the salient and strong points of his character.

IMPORTANT INSURANCE DECISION.—The New York Court of Appeals, the highest judicial tribunal in the State, has decided that suicide does not vitiate a life insurance policy. The American Mutual Life Insurance Company refused to pay the widow of Marcus W. Gibson the sum for which his life had been insured because he committed suicide, but the court reaffirmed the decision of the lower courts that the policy must be paid. The company attempted to prove that Gibson was a theist or infidel, and therefore that the suicide was intentional, the deceased not having the fear of God before him; but the court ruled out this as irrelevant, and held that in an action to recover for an insurance upon the life of the deceased, it is incompetent to inquire into his religious faith with a view of influencing the question whether, in such case, death was occasioned by an intent of self-destruction or of accident.

It is calculated that there are now about 60,000 Chinamen settled in California, all of whom are, with few exceptions, natives of the province of Canton.

ASHES FOR WHEAT.

A correspondent of the Rural Gentleman, in Delaware, writes strongly in favor of ashes to prevent rust in wheat, and from experience has found them of great value. As to the effects of ashes, he says they have, like Shakespeare's "sheep-sack" a three-fold operation:

1. The ashes operate as a manure upon the wheat, even in the limited quantity of eight bushels per acre.
2. They push the wheat forward several days and "in time to escape the hot sultry days which often prevail about the time of the heading out" of the wheat.
3. They strengthen the stem, giving it substance and solidity.

I may add one or two more properties of the ashes, they afford just that kind of nutriment and perfection of the grain, and will, in my opinion, also prevent the ravages of the fly in wheat. I would here venture the remark, that whoever once tries this experiment will thereafter spread his wood ashes upon his wheat as above indicated; and, in so doing, he will effectually guard against and prevent "the rust" in his wheat.

Rural World.

REMARKABLE CASE OF PETRIFICATION.

About six years ago Mr. Amos Broughton died in Wayne county, in this State, and was buried there. After his death, his wife and children moved to Buskirk's Bridge, in this county, where they now reside. A few days ago the family of the deceased resolved to bring the remains of the father from Wayne county and have them deposited in a cemetery near their present residence. In furtherance of this purpose the grave was opened and the coffin exposed, but all ordinary efforts to lift it from its position proved ineffectual. The coffin lid was therefore removed, when it was found that the body was in the most perfect state of petrification. It was covered with a dry mould, which, when removed, revealed a surface almost as white and pure as marble. The body showed not the least particle of decay. Every feature and lineament was perfectly preserved, and when stood upright it presented the appearance of a finely-chiseled statue. When Mr. Broughton died he weighed about two hundred pounds, while the remains had increased in weight, by petrification, to eight hundred pounds. Before the body was interred at Buskirk it was seen by the family, friends, and many others there. It is the most perfect and wonderful instance of petrification of human remains that has ever come to our knowledge.

Troy Press.

ACTION FOR DAMAGES.

A suit has been instituted in the City Court, Hon. Judge Scott, by Harry M. Gregg, through his counsel, Mr. John Henry Keene, Jr., to recover damages from the city in consequence of the plaintiff having broken his leg by falling upon the pavement while passing along Baltimore street, near High, on the 19th of March last. The declaration states that the injury was caused by negligence of the city officials in not having the ice removed from the pavement, and suffering it to accumulate there, and that the plaintiff's injury had made him permanently lame, and incapacitated him for a life from pursuing his avocation as a painter, and that his wife and four children and himself have no other means of maintenance. The damages are laid at \$10,000.

MAINED SOLDIERS.

The number of persons who have availed themselves of the provisions of the act of Congress giving artificial limbs to maimed soldiers amounts to five thousand nine hundred and seventy one. Of these three thousand seven hundred and eighty four were supplied with legs, two thousand one hundred and thirty four with arms, forty-four with hands, and nine with feet. For various reasons, however, all the sufferers have not been provided with limbs, since it is estimated that, making the casualties in both the army and navy, fifty thousand of the combatants have lost a limb in the service. To this number may be added twenty-five thousand in the South.