



The Spokan Times.

Spokane Falls, Saturday, June 25

The Indian Problem.

From the North Pacific Coast. With each succeeding spring comes rumors from different sections of the western country, telling of threatening Indian hostilities, and of depredations being committed by bands of these uncivilized characters. So, also, with each succeeding spring comes heated discussions reviewing the Indian problem and proclaiming, respectively, their views in regard to the proper policy which should be adopted by the government in the management of Indian affairs. In these discussions, public writing and speaking have usually taken two directions, each of which is one of opposition to views imputed to the supporters of the other. They are, respectively, opposition to the peace policy, by frontiersmen, and opposition to a policy of extermination, by peace men. The supporters of each policy know much better what they do not want than what they do. The peace policy, as attributed by its honest opponents to its promoters, is a system of collecting Indians on reservations in large bodies, feeding them at the government expense, and by moral suasion trying to civilize them. The method of Indian affairs is still that of the reservation system and peace policy, with which we have had nearly a dozen years' experience. In practice it has not succeeded to the extent expected by its friends. In the view of others it has failed of producing permanent good. This is due in part to the unskillful or vicious practices of some of those appointed to carry it into effect, and also to the inadequacy of the methods adopted for attaining its object—namely, civilization of the Indians. That there is still unskillful management is shown by the killing of Agent Mosker, and the charges on his family by the Southern Utes. He is said to have been a philanthropic man, trying to Christianize the Indians and change into an agricultural community a horde of savages. That criminal practices are not of the distant past alone is demonstrated by the recent unearthing of the Hart scandal at San Carlos, Arizona, involving Commissioner Hoyt, of the Indian Bureau in Washington, causing his removal. It is a sorry day for our country if honesty in the administration of any public offices can only be attained under despotism entirely opposed to the spirit of free institutions—a system of sudden, arbitrary and severe punishment. The object of the peace policy is their civilization. European civilization is the result of an evolution from savage life; therefore, with time enough and the proper forces brought to bear, an Indian tribe or its remnant may become civilized. The Indians have been collected in large bodies and grouped in camps around agencies. At all these agencies where there is danger of an outbreak the Indians are issued rations for their support. Experience proves that it is cheaper to feed Indians to keep them peaceable than to sacrifice human lives and money in bringing them under the absolute control of the government by the use of musketry and cannon. What our people wish is gradual elimination of the Indians from all valuable land, mineral and agricultural; but how shall this be done, and what is to be done with the Indians, they seldom either know or care. A cry to remove the Indians, reduce their reservations, and open the land to settlement, is often heard. A short time since it was for the reservation of the Umatillas in Oregon; and more recently for that of the Southern Utes. It is the eternal demand for men seeing some of the fairest acres of our land lying waste. Taking the interior Indians as they are, collected on reservations, what we need, first and above all, are forces sufficient to make the degree of the government recognized law from the moment it is uttered.—It now becomes so only after a long, tedious conflict between almost equal forces of troops and Indians, the latter dodging and running, the former

finally conquering only by persistence, tenacity and power of renewing supplies. The exact increase of the army necessary can easily be determined by computation of the number of warlike Indians, their present location and their relative fighting powers. Although there is not likely to be any Indian outbreak in Eastern Washington and Oregon or Idaho the near future, yet it would not be bad policy in the government in keeping military forces of such size that the Indians could be held with an iron hand in the event of hostilities. In cases of emergency there is not now the force requisite to handle the Indian family. Held in subjection, the tribal relations, separated into families, located in severalty on land which for a while may be protected to them, the parents at work and the children at school, they can be ruled as well under any other Executive department. The Indian or white neighbor should be punished for the crime committed upon one another. Agents appear in many cases to be powerless in checking revengeful acts on the part of the whites toward the Indians for injury inflicted on a brother citizen. Such cases should by all means be brought before the proper authorities who can engineer the affair in an unprejudiced manner. The display and judicious use of force to control, an administration with rigid inspection and certain punishment of crime to keep it pure; the immediate object useful employment of all Indians—these are among the means which alone will eventually civilize and absorb them. Many will sicken and die; many will be killed while opposing; but the children will become useful, laboring men and women. Let not the mercy of the government be a mistaken kindness, our justice paandering to vicious idle habits, nor our charity the giving to a very ignorant race a means to live in perpetual misery and crime. Navy Yard on Puget Sound. The Seattle Intelligencer, ever awake to the interest of our territory, says:—"The matter of a Navy Yard on Puget Sound is again before the country for consideration and should be kept there until definite action is taken by the government. This Puget Sound is, beyond question, the finest body of water in the United States, accessible and safe at all times, without bars, shoals or reefs, and navigable to vessels of the deepest draught. On this coast is but one navy yard, located on Mare Island, the approach to which is in course of rapid destruction. It may be necessary to remove that yard on account of that destruction, but whether necessary or not, its location is not so desirable as any one of a dozen to be found in the magnificent harbors of Puget Sound. Our government has several navy yards on the Atlantic and should have at least two on the Pacific. Our British neighbors have the nucleus of such an establishment at Esquimaux, which is destined in the near future to grow into a yard of large capacity. We should not be behind them. Their site will not compare in point of advantage with a location on Lake Washington, or Gig Harbor, or many other places that we might name. The government is aware of the truth of what we say, but it requires a stirring up and forcing to make it put its information to the use which we all so much desire. Father-Wilbur says that with births there are now as many Puget and Bannocks as the 543 originally brought to Simcoe. During the year they have grubbed 200 acres and raised 926 bushels of wheat, besides potatoes and corn. They were lazy at first, but when they learned that they must work if they drew rations, they became industrious. Efforts are being made to bring them on the same discipline as the Simcoe Indians.—E. The Watchman says: The snow is off the ground, and the friendly(?) Indians around the Weiser River, and in Eastern Oregon, are beginning to look around for last year's pastures

TELEGRAPHIC.

LATEST NEWS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

DENVER, June 12.—Today's Leadville advices state that at 10 this morning all the fire bells were tolled a signal for closing all places of business according to agreement of this morning. Ten companies of one hundred men each, armed with Winchester rifles, formed, and this afternoon fifteen hundred citizens, two-thirds armed, paraded the streets. Five hundred strikers were collected in front of the Chronicle office. Mooney, the leader, told them to go home and behave like men. A few moments after, the sheriff arrested Mooney without resistance, and he is now in jail. On the return of the citizens' procession past the Chronicle office, the strikers dispersed. The wildest excitement prevails, but there has been no bloodshed up to a o'clock, and the general opinion seems to be that there will be no serious collision, but Lieut. Gov. Tabor and others express great fear. Later: Gov. Pitkin telegraphs from Leadville to-day that miners are going to work and that everything is quiet. CHICAGO, June 12.—The heat for the past three days has been very severe, the thermometer in the hot part of the day indicated 90° in the shade, or over. It is much cooler to-night, but several cases of sunstroke are reported, of which three or four have proven fatal. A few cases are now under treatment at hospitals. FOREIGN. PANAMA, June 7.—A correspondent in Chili writes that the terms of peace the government is disposed to offer to the allies are rather severe. Bolivia is required to resign all right to the territory of Atacama as far as the Loa, which is to be the dividing line between Peru and Chili. Bolivia's domain on the coast will cease forever. Peru's share of the penalty for making war on Chili is placed at the not insignificant sum of \$200,000,000, and as a pledge for payment of the same, and until such is effected, Chili will retain the district of Tapaoca. DUBLIN, June 16.—Five families, evicted yesterday, have been reinstated by a large crowd. LIVERPOOL, June 17.—The Courier states that there are grave dissensions in the cabinet. Right Hon. Jos. Chamberlain, president of the board of trade, wishes to retire, his principal grievance being a failure on the part of the government to recall Sir Bartle Frere from the governorship of the Cape of Good Hope. A bitter contest is anticipated on Bradlaugh's administration. LONDON, June 17.—A telegram from Buenos Ayres says hostilities have begun. BERLIN, June 17.—Prizes to exhibitors at the international fishery exhibition were distributed to-day. The first honorary prize was awarded to Prof. Baird, of the Smithsonian institution, U. S. The United States will receive a gold medal and an address. Tilden Ahead. So far S. J. Tilden is a long ways ahead among candidates for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. Kansas, Missouri and Mississippi have not instructed their delegates, and in New Jersey, Virginia and Minnesota the choice of delegates is said to be mixed and doubtful. Of the 326 delegates elected, omitting those from the three States first mentioned, 3 are said to favor Parker, 6 to favor Seymour, 12 Field, 13 Bayard, 40 Thurman, 53 Hancock and 199 Tilden. Field, who is supposed to be a strong candidate, has no votes promised him outside of Virginia. His own State and California elected Tilden delegates. Tilden and Field would make as strong a ticket as the Democrats can put in the field. They would get the whole party vote, and would come as near defeating the Republican nominees as any men that can be put forward.—Intelligence. Whenever is honorable and candid, honest and courteous, is a true gentleman, whether learned or unlearned, rich or poor.

WHEELING, June 16.—A cloud-burst over the cemetery to-day washed away the earth from coffins leaving them exposed to the air. The rain has been very heavy and damaging hereabouts, bridges and crops being badly damaged. The Potomac river is very high; as also the Monongahela. NEW YORK, June 17.—An evening paper publishes a Cincinnati dispatch as follows: The Commercial's Syracuse special says that Seymour has decided to accept the presidential nomination if tendered. DENVER, June 16.—Gov. Pitkin has advices from Leadville that a compromise has been agreed on between strikers and mine owners and managers, and that the militia will be disbanded Friday. The basis of his compromise is not yet announced. CHICAGO, June 17.—A party of one hundred and twenty-eight excursionists, ticketed for San Francisco, Portland and other Pacific coast cities left here yesterday. NORTH ADAMS, June 17.—A terrible scourge resembling dysentery is prevailing in Adams, which has so far, baffled the skill of physicians. Over a thousand persons, old and young, have been stricken down. Physicians are busy night and day. Many cases, it is feared, will be fatal. There is little doubt that the epidemic is occasioned by impurities of the water in the reservoirs.

E. M. DOWNING

has just returned from the east AND IS NOW AT SPANGLE, MURDERING PRICES! Immense stock OF GENERAL MERCHANDISE, which he offers at WAY-DOWN PRICES! No need of going to Colfax any more. Just remember that DOWNING is going to sell \$5,000 worth of Goods for cash within the next 30 days, regardless of Colfax, or any other opposition. Go and see DOWNING, AT SPANGLE.

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