

Indian Protest to the Great Father.

Parties up from the North furnish us with a copy of what purports to be a protest of the Blackfeet, Blood and Piegan Indians against the provisions of the act of Congress approved April 15, 1874, to establish a reservation for certain Indians in the Territory of Montana. The act complained of is that based upon the petitions of very many citizens of this and neighboring counties, who strongly favored a change in the boundary lines of the reservation as originally set off, by order of President Grant. By the act of April 15 the reservation limits were contracted even more than was asked by the citizen petitioners, which act the Indians do not appear to look upon with complacency, judging by their address or protest, printed below:

Great Father Grant:—We, your red children, the Blackfeet, Blood and Piegan tribe of Indians, who dwell far north and toward the setting sun, unite in sending you greeting: We want some of our chiefs and white men to meet and talk with you about the great wrongs which threaten us, but the distance is so great we cannot go unless you send for us. We hear it in the wind that comes from the East, that another great portion of our country is to be taken from us.

This is the country in which our tribes and our ancestors have lived, since a time when no man can remember. Our country was watered by the rivers now known as the Sun River, the Teton and Marias, the Dearborn and Blackfoot—away to the Missouri river, east, and the mountains west, and to the north beyond the British line. In this country our families have been reared and taught the traditions of our great warriors, many seasons before the white man was heard of by us; and here our ancestors are buried.

The valleys of the Dearborn, the Blackfoot and Sun rivers, you have taken from us; we have given them up, and we are at peace with our white brothers. Our hearts are warm; our words are true.

This country, between the Teton and Marias rivers, is very dear to us. Here we pasture our horses in winter, and hunt the buffalo for meat to feed our families.

This is our winter hunting ground, and in the name of justice we now offer our united protest against being driven from this, into the deep and frozen snows north of the Marias, or still further away—to starve.

Neither our wishes nor our rights have been consulted in this new and unjust scheme to take our best country from us. Our children are gradually learning the ways of civilized life, and we have no country remaining but this so suitable for them to engage in farming or raising cattle and horses.

The object in taking this country from us is to satisfy the cupidity of not exceeding twenty men, none of whom now live here, but who want to turn their herds in upon our rich pastures.

There are abundance of vacant pastures elsewhere.

While we love peace, we love to be justly dealt by. Should we be compelled to forsake this fairest portion of our country remaining to us, loud wailings of despair will be heard from our tents.

Great Father, this robbery will cause our hearts to bleed and our hopes to fly away.

Our young men will be desperate and hard to restrain. Great Father, save us from this fearfully unjust scheme of robbery.

Let us live in peace on the north bank of the Teton river, and not be removed hence.

Our sun is low; our word is spoken.—*Helena (Montana) Herald, Aug. 15.*

The Great Landing Stage Fire At Liverpool.

Liverpool papers contain the following:

The most disastrous fire that has occurred in connection with the port of Liverpool throughout all the period of its history broke out yesterday afternoon, and resulted in the total destruction of the landing stage, the most extensive and magnificent structure of the kind in the world. The fire broke out about ten minutes past 3 p. m., and so rapid was its spread that in less than half an hour the whole population of both sides of the river

were made aware of the fact, by the rising of dense volumes of smoke, that in the neighborhood of the river a fire of great magnitude had broken out. Soon the incredible story went round that it was the landing stage which was on fire; but the possibility that a floating structure, isolated, but for the iron bridges connecting it with the piers, from every other structure, could be the scene of a gigantic conflagration could scarcely find place in the ordinary mind. But the smoke arose in great volumes, and after a brief time it became known that, in spite of the ample supply of water, there was every probability that the splendid promenade was doomed to destruction. Liverpool will not soon forget the alarm this looming mass of smoke rising from the river at first occasioned. The landing-stage of itself had been immensely thronged during the day, and it was in the very height of the commotion that the alarm of fire was raised—an alarm that left the least possible interval for saving anything from inevitable destruction. The whole length of the stage, which had been recently completed by the addition of a new portion joining the old George's and the more recent Prince's stage, was nearly a quarter of a mile. The cost of the structure was about a quarter of a million sterling. It is conjectured that the origin of the fire was a gas explosion underneath the newly added portion, which was being fitted with gas pipes. The fire spread quickly underneath the deck of the stage, catching the timber work over the pontoon.

In 1847 the engineering skill of Sir William Cubitt put an end to the antiquated system of embarkation that had existed in the shoals of the Mersey for many years. He designed the George's Landing stage, and that structure, which occupied a considerable time in formation, was, on the first of June of that year, fixed to the moorings to which it was attached until a few days ago, when it was removed to make way for a stage so adapted as to join that portion of the structure that was destroyed yesterday. It consisted principally of 39 iron pontoons and a wooden decking five inches in thickness. In length it was 500 feet, and in width 180 feet 9 inches; its weight was 2,000 tons, and it could bear 40,000 persons. With the bridges, the total cost of the stage, which was built under the superintendence of the officers of the Dock Committee, a body which at that time performed the duties of the present Dock Board, was about £40,000.

The fire continued to burn throughout the night. There was little hope of saving anything except the new pontoon bridge, which runs far in toward the street. This structure in itself is valued at about £25,000. The loss occasioned by the disaster will, we believe, fall almost entirely on the Dock Board, from whom no intimation has been given as to any portion of the structure being covered by insurance.

THE GRASSHOPPERS.—Concerning the grasshopper raid, the *Leavenworth Commercial* says:—"That a terrible calamity has fallen upon us as a State, it is useless to deny. The devastating hordes have already visited over two-thirds of the State, and wherever they have settled everything is destroyed. In the southwestern tier of counties there is scarcely a vestige of the crops left. Cotton, corn, potatoes, all garden vegetables, tobacco, castor beans, and even fruit trees have been destroyed. The suffering is indeed terrible. In all the new settled counties there must necessarily be much suffering. The farmers were depending entirely on the corn crop and what few vegetables they could raise for subsistence. But very little wheat was raised, not near enough to bread the people. In the southwestern counties there was a considerable breadth of cotton planted, it being a much more profitable crop than wheat, and this is all gone."

ASSASSINATION OF REPUBLICANS.—It is not passing strange that the Democratic newspapers have nothing to say of the diabolical assassination of Water P. Billings, Esq., in Sumter County, last Saturday. He was not the first Republican that has been assassinated in that county, but we do have some reason to hope, from the manner in which it has aroused the indignation of the Republicans all over the State, that it will be the

last. Governor Lewis has offered a reward of \$400 for the capture of the assassins, but the reward ought to have been five thousand dollars! The amount offered is perhaps all the law allows, but the remainder ought to be made up by private subscription. Assassination and murder of Republicans, because they are Republicans, must cease, or Alabama will be brought to ruin.—*Alabama State Journal.*

BREVITIES.

A popular complaint is that there are twice as many girls as there are boys in the Sunday schools.

A singular difference—Call a girl a young witch and she is pleased; call an elderly woman an old witch and her indignation knows no bounds. It is the age that makes all the difference. The witchery is there all the same.

It was "darling George" when a bridal couple left Omaha; it was "dear George" at Chicago; at Detroit it was "George," and when they reached Niagara Falls it was "Say, you."

According to the *Independent*, a New York city pastor is reported as declaring that in his pastorate of forty years nine-tenths of the additions to his church were secured through his Sunday school.

A correspondent writes to the *Scientific American* that the worst toothache, neuralgia coming from the teeth, may be speedily and delightfully ended by the application of a small bit of clean cotton saturated in a strong solution of ammonia to the defective tooth. Sometimes the late sufferer is prompted to momentary nervous laughter by the application, but the pain has disappeared.

New York spends annually \$9,000,000 on newspapers, \$7,000,000 on theaters, \$3,000,000 for religious purposes, and \$50,000,000 on liquor and liquor establishments. This is spending in strong drink five and a half times as much as in intelligence, seven times as much as in amusement, and nearly seventeen times as much as in religion, or in drink nearly three times as much as in intelligence, amusement, and religion combined. Verily, strong drink is powerful to the pulling down of humanity.

The performances of the locomotive whistle, we are told, have been systematized on a western railway. Seven whistles are to indicate "down brakes;" thirty-two whistles, "up brakes;" forty whistles and two snorts, "back up." The instructions add: "In case of doubt, whistle like the d—l!" at street crossings whistle "considerably." Again: "Always whistle before dinner. Require the fireman to keep the whistle valve open during dinner. After dinner whistle and squirt water; then back up. Then go ahead with a whistle, a squirt, and a ring." This sibilant method being achieved, may we not hope that the scream of the engine may in time be modified into something melodious? Then, indeed we might have such instructions to the driver as these: "For 'down brakes,' play the chromatic scale; for 'up brakes,' the scale in C; for 'back up,' the first six bars of the Overture to Zampa; in case of doubt, a double trill; and at street crossings, a series of significant runs." This, with some wild adagio to be performed after accidents, should the locomotive be well enough to appear would render the signal system very complete.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

CHECKS OF U. S. DISBURSING OFFICERS.—As it is a common practice in this and neighboring Territories to pass the checks of government disbursing officers from hand to hand the same as greenbacks, sometimes a whole year passing before presentation for payment, we re-publish the following warning for the benefit of the public generally: The secretary of the treasury has issued an order which directs the rigid enforcement of the regulation which requires the treasurer and all the assistant treasurers and depositaries of the United States to refuse the payment of all official checks of United States disbursing officers, if presented more than four months after their issue, and all treasury drafts and disbursing officers' checks presented more than three years after their issue. All checks, the payment of which has

been refused, will have to be forwarded to the secretary of the treasury, the former for examination and verification with the drawer's accounts, and the latter for settlement on new accounts."—*Santa Fe New Mexican.*

PRICE OF GOLD.

Corrected daily by Deseret National Bank
Buying at \$1.08; selling at \$1.10½.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

I HAVE in my possession:
One small grey MARE MULE, about fifteen or twenty years old, lame in right hind leg, has a halter on.
If not claimed, the above described animal will be sold on Saturday, September 12th, 1874, at 10 a. m.
J. B. MILLER,
District Poundkeeper.
South Cottonwood, Aug. 23, 1874.
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