

was sorely afflicted. The Russians invaded Finland and devastated the country. Other European powers threatened to attack the kingdom. The king neglected to send troops and ships to the points of danger, but showered valiant challenges on his adversaries and eulogies of the past on his soldiers. And at last he sent for the armor of the lamented Charles XII and put it on, marching up and down one of the halls of his palace, thus equipped. To his attendants he expressed the opinion that Europe would tremble on learning that he had donned the armor of the "mad" hero of the north. But Europe did not tremble. Everybody laughed at him, and his subjects joined in the merriment, and when they had composed themselves they declared him insane and drove him from the throne, him and his bells forever.

The German emperor has no external enemies to conquer at present but antagonistic forces at work among his own people. These can certainly not be brought to submission by the ruler donning the armor of his grandfather. Nor do the interests of Germany require that everything that asks for due consideration of the rights of the people should be put down. What Germany needs is a sovereign who understands the present and can grasp the future and is willing to co-operate with those who desire a peaceful advance towards freedom.

THE UTE INDIAN BILL.

The Ute removal bill has passed the Senate, and now will go to the House for action on the amendments made by the upper branch of Congress. It appears probable that these will be concurred in, and that the bill will become law, a large number of the Utes being thus transferred from Southern Colorado into New Mexico. About eighty-five miles of the eastern length of the Southern Ute reservation will be cut off, and a tract forty miles east and west and fifteen miles north and south will be all the Indian lands left in southwestern Colorado. New Mexico then will have to furnish the balance of country necessary for homes for the Utes from the old reservation.

It is announced in a telegram from Washington that in discussing the bill Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, stated that "the removal of the Utes to Utah was not opposed by the leaders of the Mormon people or the people themselves, but only by cattle men occupying the land in question." This has been the claim of Colorado all along; and all along it has been utterly without justification in fact. Not only have Mormons as well as cattle men opposed the removal to this Territory, but it has been vigorously objected to and resisted by all classes of people, regardless of political, religious, or business affiliations. The people of Utah always have been friendly to the Indians; they have advocated the red man's rights, in word and deed, and propose to continue to do so whenever occasion demands. But that affords no reason for dumping among them all the Indians of the country, or even the bands which Colorado is so anxious to get rid of in the interest of land grabbers and speculators. Besides, the residents of Utah are in the habit of

standing up for their own rights as well as those of the Indians, therefore when Colorado tried the dumping game, the people of this Territory with one voice joined in a protest the force of which no inaccurate statements in Congress have been able to turn aside.

In speaking on the subject, Senator Vilas is credited with saying that the Utes should have been removed to Utah, as the lands selected there were suitable to their wild habits; also that at the time the selection was made there were few people on the lands, and these were mostly employed by the Pittsburg Cattle company. Mr. Vilas falls into two grave errors. Regarding the fewness of the people in San Juan county, the fact is that there are several thriving settlements, the residents of which have been greatly imposed upon by the withdrawal of the land from settlement in 1888; and if it had not been for the uncertainty regarding the Indian question there would have been a much larger population. The employees of the cattle company named are but a small proportion of the people living on the lands in question; many of the citizens are stockmen of excellent character and reputation, having vast financial interests. The idea frequently expressed that most of the people are of a "cowboy" element not entitled to much consideration, is erroneous. The bulk of the population is composed of farmers, mechanics, and persons connected with agricultural and stock industries combined. With reference to the senator's other mistake, it may be suggested that the lands in Utah are anything but suited to the wild habits of the Indians, that is, if the government policy of civilizing the wild tribes is not to be departed from.

Upon this latter point it may be said that there is no section of the United States less suitable for Indians, if the latter are to be civilized, than in San Juan county, Utah. There is much of broken country there, deep washes, interminable gorges, sheltered ravines, precipitous cliffs and diversified mountain ranges, forming innumerable places of safety for marauding bands of Indians whose inclination might be to make the property of others their own without the formality of legal purchase. Such a country would tend to make wild Indians wilder still, and render ineffectual any attempt to civilize them. If the Utes had been located there, and once had instituted a system of predatory incursions upon the settlers within reach, the United States army would have a heavier contract than it ever has undertaken to dislodge them. There are numberless places of refuge where hostile red men could repose in safety, where they could be followed by but one man at a time, and therefore could defy pursuit. There is hardly a limit to fierceness in the San Juan country where a dozen hostile Indians could easily keep at bay a whole regiment of courageous and well disciplined troops. In the interest of the civilization of the Indian, of all districts of country, he ought to be kept out of San Juan county, Utah; and if the proposed location in New Mexico is of the same general nature, as we are informed it is to a great extent, he should be kept away from there too.

If Secretary Hoke Smith backed Senator Vilas in the views expressed, he must have been under grave misapprehension of the facts; for such suggestions are directly opposed to the secretary's well known policy of leading the Indian toward civilization, instead of still further confirming him in his nomadic and untamed habits. But there is reason to believe that the Senate has not acted altogether wisely in disregarding Secretary Smith's request, presented through Senator Vilas and by letter, that the Indians be given twelve months to decide whether or not they were favorable to the change. The inordinate haste of the Colorado senators to crowd the measure into immediate effect under the claim that Chief Ignacio was agreeable, should have suggested to the Senate that there was under cover something not quite in accord with a purely philanthropic desire to benefit the Indians. The bill may become a law safely enough, but if the Indians in Colorado and New Mexico are not satisfied, or become possessed of the idea that they have been deceived as they have been frequently in the past, the settlement of Indian troubles will not be rendered easier or peace be more definitely assured by the new legislation.

FROM THE LAST CENTURY.

There are now very few people living whose birth is referred to as being in the cycle of years denoted by "seventeen hundred;" and it is quite fashionable to note the reminiscences of such persons, or of events occurring about the time of their advent into mortality. There are still fewer people alive who have any recollection of the stirring times associated with the Revolution which gave to the world the greatest Republic of modern times. The New Orleans States, however, not only has discovered one of this class, but one who was born in Virginia before the independence of the colonies was thought of, and heard George Washington, when separation was discussed, advocate the breaking away of the colonies from Great Britain.

The old man whom the States has hunted up is George Brown, a negro, who now lives at Goulsboro, Louisiana. His certificate of birth shows that this interesting event occurred at Richmond, Va., in the year 1764, therefore the negro is in his 131st year; he is quite feeble. On the occasion of Washington's speech which has been referred to, Brown, who was a slave at the time, says that it was in his master's tobacco factory that the coming Father of his Country had all the white men employed in the building gathered around him, and told them that they were not freemen, but slaves to the British government, and would be until they took up arms and asserted their independence. The negro was a little over ten years old at the time, and his recollection of Washington is that he was a tall, straight, well-proportioned man, with very light, curly hair, which he did not wear as long as was customary in those times. His face was very kindly and most agreeable to look upon, though the character of a deep-set determination was visibly