

"WITH the compliments of the Secretary of the Interior" comes a Report of a Visit to the Sioux and Ponka Indians on the Missouri River, made by William Welsh, during the passing summer. The "Report has been approved by the Secretary of the Interior, and is published by his authority, but is only to be viewed as a record of observations for which the writer is individually responsible." Mr. Welsh spent more than six weeks in an official visitation to most of the Indian agencies which, about 18 months previously, were placed by the U. S. Government under the control of the Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The visit was made at the request of the Board, the Episcopal Church being the representative of the Government in nominating and supervising Indian agents. Mr. Welsh was accompanied by Mr. E. C. Kemble, secretary of the P. E. Missionary Indian Commission, the Rev. S. D. Hioman, P. E. Missionary to the Sioux, and, during part of the visit, Rev. J. A. Paddock, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who was a member of the Executive Committee of the P. E. Indian Missionary Commission; a lady of great intelligence and experience, and deeply imbued with sympathy for the Indians, was also present during the entire visitation.

The tribes under the supervision of the P. E. Church are—

1. The Ponka Indians, affiliated with the Omahas, about 700 in number, located on the west bank of the Missouri River, Dakota, S. E. of the great Sioux Reservation.

2. The Yanktons, numbering about 2,000, one of the 14 tribes of Sioux or Dakotas, located on the east bank of the Missouri, 60 miles above Yankton, the reservation beginning at Choteau Creek and extending to the Fort Randall military reservation.

3. The Yanktonnais Sioux, about 1,000, on the east bank of the Missouri, known as Crow Creek, a hundred miles above the Yankton Agency.

4. Lower Brule Sioux, 2,500, on the west bank of the Missouri, from the mouth of the White Earth river, to a point opposite the Crow Creek Agency. At the sub-agency buildings, nine miles from the Agency, and on the opposite bank of the Missouri, a company of U. S. soldiers is stationed, "principally needed to hold the lawless whites in check."

5. Minicoujou, Sans Arc, Two Kettle, and other Sioux, 2,000 to 5,000, Agency on the west bank of the Missouri, below the mouth of the Cheyenne river, nine miles above Fort Sully, and one hundred miles from Crow Creek.

The board has also under its care some roving Sioux and three other agencies—the Eastern Shoshones and Bannacks in Wyoming Territory, the Ogallala Sioux under Red Cloud and other chiefs, and the Upper Brule Sioux under Spotted Tail and others.

Mr. Welsh visited the old Whetstone Agency, west bank of the Missouri, above Fort Randall, formerly the Upper Brule Sioux Agency, now a depot for supplies. The belief prevailed that the Upper Brule must be brought there again, to prevent a score between them and the Ogallalas. Col. Stanley, commanding at Fort Sully, is spoken of as one of the best friends the Indian has in all that region. Though strict in the performance of his duties, he has the respect of all the Indians thereabout, and the affection of many of them. He confides in them, and they do not forfeit his confidence.

At the Cheyenne Agency, the buildings were in a disgraceful condition, the Indians were quiet and well behaved, but they complained that the rats soiled the flour and the meat was soiled by being dragged through the dust. The Indians showed other signs of improvement, and manifested no evidences of barbarism. At a conference Burnt Face and other Indians asked why telegraph poles, the precursors of railroads, were placed on Indian reservations without the consent of the Indians; and why white men built railroads through the Indian hunting grounds, without first making compensation for the Indian subsistence destroyed or driven away. Other Indians referred to the proposed Black Hills expedition, and said the government was not fulfilling its pledge to furnish work oxen and cattle for breeding. Many Indians were able and willing to take care of them. Bull Eagle was rude at the conference, but many apologies were made for his conduct. Of an interview with three chiefs on this account, Mr. Welsh says—

That long, frank interviews with

three intelligent and earnest Indians deeply impressed me with the fair-mindedness of these men, when honorably treated, even before the civilizing influences of Christianity had reached their minds and hearts.

Every point they made was just and tenable. If such men could be selected from the Reservations nearest to hostile camps, to act as negotiators, I feel sure that most of our difficulties with the Indians could be adjusted, provided there is for a few years as much liberality by Congress as is desired by all the officers of the army with whom I conversed. Most of the difficulty with hostiles arises from our lack of liberality to those who are living peaceably on Reservations.

Opposite Fort Sully, were fields well cultivated and comfortable log houses built by the Indians. They made a strong plea for a school, and arrangements were made to provide a missionary and teachers. Says Mr. Welsh, "There is a natural enmity (among the Indians) against soldiers, therefore it is unwise for them to wander away from the camp alone and unarmed." "Wild Indians are unreasoning when they first hear that a relative has been killed, and here lies the chief danger of traveling near to them."

The Yanktonnais are thoroughly peaceable, but lethargic, leaving most of the field work to their wives, manifesting less ambition to have their children taught, and complaining of their agent building houses for them, as if an innovation, also of the builders of the telegraph line to Fort Sully, not paying them as agreed, for poles cut on their lands. Much difficulty had been experienced from squaw-men and whisky ranches. Provisions were to be made for a missionary and lady school teacher.

The Lower Brule Sioux are spoken of in the highest terms as being remarkably peaceable and moral, and for a remarkable reason—"because they have not had much contact with white people." Arrangements were made to establish a school and provide women to visit the sick and sorrowing Indians. In a council the Indians wanted the promised work oxen and cattle for breeding before they sent their children to school, but they wanted both things done. It was agreed to found a mission establishment with male and female teachers. The cultivated crops of this tribe looked well, and the Agent promised to break more prairie for them.

The Yanktons had a chapel and met weekly to practice sacred music, an Indian lad playing the organ, and developing quite remarkable musical talent. Most of the chiefs had been baptized or were favorable to religion, though in some instances the jealous medicine men had stirred up the community and driven off the missionaries and teachers. Most of the Yanktons were anxious to work for wages, many had built comfortable log houses, and some had purchased wagons, horses, and household articles from their own savings. They said when they got cattle and farms they could convince the wild Indians that a settled life was best. They wanted a schoolhouse, as education was their only hope for their children. This was promised. Mad Bull's band were sober and religiously inclined, though a whisky ranch was close to the Reservation.

The Santee Sioux, after having been taken to Crow Creek and starved there, through official fraud and neglect, have now farms of 80 acres to each family, with log houses built by themselves, and are thoroughly peaceful, moral, industrious, thrifty and religious, more so than any community of whites, clothed like civilized people, and most can read and write Indian and speak English.

The Ponkas suffered from raids by other Indians, and arms were requested to repel these raids, as the Ponkas were only half supplied. They cultivated the soil and broke prairie as accurately as white farmers. Apprenticeship produced good Indian mechanics. The schools were prosperous and a church was being built, but an unaccountable sadness pervaded the tribe, and they wished to be united with the Omahas, who were making steady progress in education and industrial pursuits. The Winnebagoes were thoroughly peaceful and more attractive in their appearance and manners than other Indians.

Mr. Welsh desires official consideration to be given to the following subjects—

1. The N. P. R. R. as a military necessity, the Indians to be compensated for the land needed for the road.

2. Whisky traffic on the Missouri should be prevented.

3. Indians on the warpath against other Indians should be treated as if attacking whites.

4. Indian biennial hunts should be disallowed.

5. Indians should be kept to their own reservations.

6. Rations should be given to families and not to bands.

7. Rations should be decreased to the Indians.

8. Rations should be used to promote education.

9. Stripping the house of mourning should be prevented.

10. Indian farm titles should be made secure.

11. Cattle for breeding should be furnished.

12. Trade competition on reservations should be allowed.

13. Supplies should be purchased near reservations when possible.

ARIZONA emeralds, if not diamonds, have got to Denver, according to the *Tribune* of that city. Major I. Cary French presented a stone to Mr. Ingolls, of that city, which stone, the Major states, was one of a thousand which he picked up in Arizona in 1869, unconscious of any value being attached to it. The emerald was analysed by an expert with the following result—

DENVER, August 30th, 1872.

Infusible alone before blow pipe. Color unaltered, with microcosmic salt. Dissolved. Bead green. Contains oxide of chrom. Proof conclusive of an Emerald.

HOWARD, Analyst at Ingolls', Jeweler.

DENVER is more than ordinarily interested if not excited over the projection of the Denver and Platte Valley Railroad Co. The advantages of this road are said to be the saving of one hundred miles of distance over any other route, and remarkably moderate gradients, nowhere exceeding thirty feet to the mile.

Denver is enterprising in the matter of railroads, and she evidently means to be well supplied with travel and freight accommodation.

LIKE San Francisco, Denver is enjoying a round of excitements. A gory attempt at street assassination on the 6th, a Mr. Manning the victim; a successful incendiary fire on the 3d, after many unsuccessful attempts, resulting in the burning to death of Mrs. Emma A. De Soto, besides much destruction of property, Aaron L. Mozely, the owner of the houses, the supposed incendiary; and the standing attempts at moral reform by the suppression of gambling dens, houses of prostitution, etc., are among the most prominent. This last business is the most largely and lastingly exciting. Mr. J. Q. Charles and the *Denver News* are having a good time in argumentative sparring over this question, Mr. Charles on the side of reform, the *Denver News* (W. N. Byers, editor) in the interest of the gamblers, prostitutionists, etc.

Says Mr. Charles—

When the editor of a public newspaper occupying the position of W. N. Byers, both past and present in the history of Denver—professing as he does to be the open staunch opponent of public gambling and its kindred vices—arays himself against the efforts of Denver's best citizens, to have the laws against public gambling and houses of prostitution enforced, and in his bitter, vindictive, and malicious opposition, denounces the motives of those engaged in this movement as dishonest, mercenary and hypocritical, and when I am singled out and assailed, may I not, in presenting to the public my vindication, say, in his own language, "It may be well for the public to inquire into the motives of this 'distinguished' editor, for striving in such an extraordinary manner to prevent the execution of the laws against such vices; and further ask, 'are they honest or are they mercenary.'"

The discussion goes into Colorado court failures to enforce the laws, and refusals of grand jury to act. Mr. Charles tells Mr. Byers substantially that "he has sold out to the gamblers and is growing rich from pocketing a portion of their ill-gotten money," and Mr. Byers tells Mr. Charles, or rather insinuates, that he has "grown rich from money received by bribery and defending gambling."

They have a very pretty quarrel on hand, and on the face of it the public who desire a healthy moral influence

to prevail will necessarily be on the side of reform. The defenders of the houses of ill repute remind us strongly of certain demonstrative and unscrupulous persons of that class in this city, who stick at nothing to accomplish their disreputable purposes.

HON. Wm. H. Seward, it is stated, is at his home at Auburn, N. Y., and, although physically wasted, remains in the enjoyment of his mental faculties. He carefully and wisely avoids public excitement, and devotes himself to the completion of his report of his voyage around the world, his receptions and other experiences on that memorable trip. This work is said to be near completion. The latter part of the work, it is understood, will contain his general reflections on the countries through which he traveled and a summing up of his views and comparisons of different races and nations. His accomplished daughter works with him as amanuensis and assistant.

Mr. Seward's work will undoubtedly be one of great interest, and replete with information. The public will be eager to read the mature reflections of so distinguished a statesman, made in the calm leisure of an honored old age.

THE *California Republican* is ungallant enough to say that Frances Rose McKintley is "fat and forty" if not "fair," and "must once have been very attractive," but that free love becomes impracticable when a woman approaches the "sere and yellow leaf." The *Republican* reiterates to Rose the Shakespearian advice—"Get thee to a nunnery." We don't believe a nunnery is a fit place for woman.

THE *Chicago Times* is rather Ishmaelish, so far as the Grant and Greeley parties are concerned, if favoring any it is the Louisville fiasco conventionites. Says the *Times*—

The consternation of *The Tribune* philosopher and his faithful drill-sergeants on account of the Louisville movement is really agonizing. It causes them to laugh hysterically; to cry like lubberly urchins about to be deprived of their bread and butter; to curse and swear like Greeley; to lie like Grant; to turn grotesque verbal somersaults; to contradict themselves every two minutes; to talk like drunken lunatics; to damn every man they see wearing his pantaloons outside of his boot-tops; to render themselves in all possible ways ridiculous, absurd, preposterous, and laughable.

ATTEMPTED ESCAPE OF PRISONERS.—On Saturday afternoon a number of prisoners who were at work on the city water-works, in City Creek Canyon, in charge of Col. Smith, made a break, with the intention of escaping. Although the whole gang jumped out of the hole where they were at work the only one who got away to any considerable distance was an individual named John Curran, or Patsey Marley, No. 2, so called on account of his personal resemblance to the other Patsey. Col. Smith went after Curran and called on him to stop, which he refused to do, but stooped to pick up a rock to throw at the Colonel, and the latter then fired at him, the ball striking him in the cheek, going through the fleshy part of the right shoulder and breast and hitting the left thigh. The wound is not dangerous.

The plot to escape seemed to be general among the prisoners, it being the evident design for Curran to take the lead in the attempt, and while those in charge were after him, for the other prisoners to get away. In this they were disappointed, however, as the two or three disinterested men in the vicinity stayed with the main bulk of the gang while Col. Smith and Mr. Henry Grow went after Curran. The latter was brought to the City Hall, and the Drs. Benedict attended to his wound.

Curran is one of three persons who committed a robbery, accompanied with violence, on a party in Tooele County, some time ago, and for which he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary, he being now in custody of the city for Warden Rockwood.

In the 20th Ward of this city, September 6th, 2:30 p.m. of consumption, ANDREW JAMES, son of Charles and Caroline Ringwood, aged 11 months and 20 days.

In the 10th Ward of this city, Sept. 8th, of inflammation of the brain, CHARLES GEORGE, son of Charles W. and Arzella W. Symons, aged one year, one month and twelve days.

MIL. Star please copy.

At Leicester, England, June 15th, 1872, M-RINTHA ALT ERA MEASURES, aged 17 years and 5 months. Though young in years she was strong in faith.—*Millennial Star*.