

DESERET NEWS.



ALBERT CARRINGTON.....EDITOR.

Wednesday, November 17, 1858.

THE Business and Delivery Office of the Deseret News is removed to the north-east room of the Council House, up stairs, where the "News" will be delivered, henceforward.

Advertisements, to insure insertion in the current issue, must be handed in previous to Tuesday morning.

The "DESERET WRITING BOOK" for sale at this office. Price 25 cents.

Our national history presents a great amount of evidence in support of the position we assume in our present article, viz.—that it is indispensable to the welfare and security of the actual settlers in any portion of the United States, to lay down, at the very commencement of settlements, an unmistakable dividing line between them and the aboriginal natives.

The unpardonable neglect of our government in many instances to take the proper measures promptly to carry out this policy has produced disastrous consequences. We have ourselves suffered from the neglect. For more than eleven years we have been laboring to add our mite to the general greatness by the reclamation of the deserts and the extension of American enterprise. We have been met at every step by the prejudiced savage, who looked upon the dwellings of the white man as so many encroachments upon his hereditary rights. Our small settlements have been beset by large numbers of Indian pensioners. Humanity forbade their being turned away hungry and naked from our doors. Policy suggested the avoidance of the expensive alternative of war. Still it has been a tax, a heavy, impoverishing tax upon our citizens. Yet what shall we say to the Indian? What course pursue with the old proprietor? He points out to us the land-marks established by nature in the lofty peaks of the Wahsatch and Sierra Nevada. He clings to the hunting-grounds of his boyhood and the turf on which moulder the bones of his ancestry. He loves to sit by the short lovely twilight at the threshold of his old familiar cave and hear the echo of his father's death song, as he selects a favorite spot for the crumbling of his own bones. To him the old sheltering cedar has become as dear and sacred as to us the ivy mantled cottage—the old house at home. Holy memories of the past cling around each conspicuous pine-tree; and the yellow leaves of autumn strew themselves over big mounds where brave warriors assembled and bled in battle. Many reasons are there, joyous and sad, for the attachment of the red man to his wild home. We know not why he should not love his native soil or be jealous of encroachments. Yet was not the earth created to gratify alone the prejudices of tradition, nor for the monopoly of savage idleness. It was made to be multiplied on and replenished. The forest grows that it may furnish material for comfort and ornament in the dwellings of the industrious and honest. Even the weeds are not without their use. They grow that the genius of the husbandman may be improved by their extraction or subjugation.

We shall not advocate extermination or unjust encroachment. Nay, we are opposed to the first step that could wrong the ignorant savage. To him belong the common rights of man as well as to the more civilized white man. All have their rights; and all may enjoy them without an individual suffering wrong. Our object should be to ascertain, not wherein we can best accommodate ourselves exclusively, but wherein we can best fulfill the providences of the Great Creator without trampling upon the rights of the meanest of His creatures.

The present course pursued with the Indians of Utah is neither humane nor honorable. It is a curse to the white settler and tends to the extermination of the Indian. Proverbially apt in the prompt adoption of all the vices of civilization, the Indian is slow to improve in the industrious arts while mingling in white society. This being the case, it becomes our plain duty to ascertain and adopt the best course to preserve ourselves and in the genuine spirit of humanity advance the interests of our red neighbors.

We suggest then, that a Commission be at once appointed in the name of the United States, to treat with the Indians of Utah. Let their real claims to the soil be ascertained and purchased from them. Select suitable locations whither to remove them, and have them removed promptly and entirely. They need not be removed far from their old homes. At the confluence of the Yambah or Bear, and Little Snake rivers there is an extensive country; affording within itself facilities and materials for all the favorite sports of the Indian. The two rivers and their tributaries abound in fish. The elk, antelope and deer roam over the country in large herds, and the buffalo ranges on its borders. There is also considerable land suitable for cultivation; abundant, at least, to furnish all the necessary farms for the tribes.

While sufficiently contiguous to the white settlements for all purposes of trade and supervision, it is also sufficiently removed to prevent sudden inroads from the tribes, or illicit traffic with the settlers. In case of hostility too, the country is easily reconnoitered and is within efficient striking distance of our garrisons. Besides, while to the citizens it would give all the benefits of an effectual removal, to the Indians it would possess scarcely the grievance of a removal at all; as in that region great numbers of the Indians have been long accustomed to congregate.

Should this course be pursued, care should be taken to avoid any miscarriage in the arrangements. There should be no anticipatory preparations for a meeting. The arrival of the Commission should be the first announcement of the proposed treaty; and the autumn following the treaty should not close till the last of the tribes had entered upon the occupation of a permanent home.

Circumstances have, in times gone by, rendered the temporary location of Indian farms, contiguous to our settlements, a matter of necessity. The Indians were in our very midst, hungry and shirtless, lounging in our streets, and hanging around our gardens and grain-fields. To provide for them employment seemed a means of lessening the evil. To this end, at much cost of time and labor, our citizens exerted themselves to instruct the natives in the use of the plough, axe and spade. All that we could have anticipated was accomplished. The evil was lessened to a great extent, but not removed. A few, of the great number who had attached themselves as proteges or pensioners on our settlements, succeeded in making themselves useful in aiding in their own support. But the great majority held labor in contempt, and in the rounds of their proud beggary culled from civilization with a greedy maw all the grosser vices. Extensive arrangements are now made for the control of the tribes. The more effectually to distinguish between the citizen and Indian jurisdictions, the offices of Governor and Superintendent were separated and entrusted to two persons. That there can be any good reason to perpetuate the custom, we cannot see. Much less can we see any good reason to increase upon and extend it. To promote friendly relations cannot be argued as an apology; for each alternate moon witnesses fresh aggressions on the part of the Indians. Temptations may indeed exist in other countries to induce the perpetuity of such a custom. The luxuries of a city restaurant, and conveniences of a city counting-house are certainly, to a refined taste, preferable to the flavor of roasted skunk and the suffocating fumes of an Indian wigwam. But, in this country, alas! dignities bring their accompanying vexations, and the most refined gentleman cannot become the mediating agent between the races without participating in the concomitant trials and advantages of each. No complaining comment, on this ground, can be made upon the proceedings of our present Superintendent. We only regret the necessity of travels and labor so indefatigable and, thus far, so unremunerated with advantageous results. Indeed, personal comforts to Utah officials, when in the full and honest discharge of their duties, can be but few and very scattered. They all come from a far country, and fatigue and exposure are their introduction to official duty.

We may jest as we please about the contemptible condition of the aborigines of our continent. We may despise, as we see fit, the poor Indian in his rags or nakedness. We may trample on the ancestral graves and hew down in recklessness the favorite groves of the original owners of the soil. We may falsely look upon the whole country as our own by right of heritage. Yet we cannot close our eyes

to the fact that we are under a responsibility important and fearful for our treatment of the native tribes. When the daring spirit of the great discoverer first rent asunder the gloomy veil that hid from the old world the rich lands of a hidden continent, the Indian was supreme ruler of the land and held at his mercy the explorers. Alike did the inspiration of the Almighty guide the discoverer, and the strong hand of the Great Creator protect the warrior, as the one battled against the prejudice, and the other against the might of arms, of European bigots. The inspiration and protection were not given as instruments of oppression and wrong. They were given that the holy wand of universal emancipation might strike at and dispel the darkness of ages that had revelled in its long midnight on this goodly land. They were given that the groaning serfs of Europe might cast off and bury their chains in the great waters forever, and live in the full, free enjoyment of the ungrudged treasures of the earth. It was not intended that the shackles of the European should be transferred to the American. It was not ordained that the serfdom of Spain should be entailed upon the free soil of Columbia. But it was purposed, and rightly ordered, that the enlightenment and literature, and the advancement in art and science of the East should be fairly and honestly exchanged for a fair share in the lands and hidden wealth of the less favored West.

Fine, imprisonment, and the damnation of society are penalties for breach of faith, and fraud among Christian people. Still more severe ought to be the penalty for any infraction of treaty on the part of a white man or white nation with the Indian.

We offer no comments on the thousand wrongs that have been inflicted on the red man. We pass by, in charity, the dark shadows which are thrown upon our national history by unprincipled encroachments and broken treaties. We simply ask for a fair and honorable trade between the general government and the tribes of our Territory for the soil we dwell upon. We ask for a good, convenient, and perpetual home for the Indians. We ask for a substantial, honest treaty; and we ask that that treaty may be held forever sacred. Then let men of good morals be appointed to dwell among the tribes, as agents and teachers, and the civilization, industry, and literature of our country be introduced among them in a way that will do the nation honor. Let the same dividing line, that compels the Indian to his own bounds, confine the white man to his proper limits. The same regulations that provide for Indian abstinence should insist upon the temperance of the agent or trader that dwells on the reserve. Unprincipled speculation upon annuities should be effectually prevented.—Honesty should be taught by example as well as precept. And in changing the habits as well as location of the Indians, the facts should prove that the change is not for the worse.—There is certainly in the history of our nation, abundant testimony that if the alliance of the red man, in times of commotion and war, is no great acquisition, their hostility is not to be despised. They may not be the staunchest and most valuable friends; but they may be most tormenting and fearful enemies.

Appoint an honest, high-minded commission. Deal honorably and liberally in the treaty. Let justice, dealt to the Indian, be at least as graciously seasoned with mercy as though his face were pale and his language our own. For the scalding tears that the heart-stricken warrior sheds, as he weeps in silence his last farewell to the scenes of sportive childhood, give him kind words, good treatment, and true unchanging friendship.—Then will peace dwell in our land and the red man cease to be the enemy of our race!

We insert the following extract from the New York Times of the 16th October, in which the writer arrays the names of Drummond and others in opposition to a supposed statement of Governor Cumming:

Hon. C. E. Sinclair, Judge of the United States District Court for this District, applied, a few days since, to Secretary Hartnett for the Library belonging to his office, which as his Excellency Governor Cumming stated in his official report to the President on the subject, was perfect and unimpaired. It is not, however, now to be found anywhere. Dr. Hurt, General Burr, District Attorney Hockaday, Marshal Dotson, Judge Drummond and Judge Stiles, besides several gentlemen merchants from this city, have testified to the destruction of this Library, together with other books and records. Governor Cumming, upon his arrival, immediately contradicted their reports by stating that it was here all right. We will now see who was correct.

It is well known to the writer "A. B. C." (who lives in our midst) that the report of the Governor which is referred to, contains no statement in regard to the books claimed by

Judge Sinclair, and yet "A. B. C." has not the manliness to avow through this paper the fact when called upon.

THE LIBRARIES.—It is, to say the least, a little singular that certain correspondents, who profess to correctly inform the public in regard to affairs in Utah, should be so ignorant or wilful in their statements concerning some facts. That Judge Stiles and T. S. Williams formerly had a law office in this city, that they kept their books in that office, and that many (or all) of those books were destroyed by some lawless person or persons (as yet unknown to the public) has never been disputed nor in any manner gainsayed by Governor Cumming, nor, so far as we know, by any one. Judge Stiles and Mr. Williams, like other citizens, borrowed books from the Utah library, and Mr. Staines, the Librarian, has informed us that to the best of his knowledge only two of the Utah library books were in their possession at the time their books were so wantonly destroyed, and for these two books they are still indebted to the Utah library, if they have not paid for them.

The books that Judge Sinclair called upon Secretary Hartnett for, could only have been such books, if any, (and there may have been) as had been officially furnished to his predecessor, Judge Stiles, by the Government. Were there any such books, they probably shared the fate of Judge Stiles and Mr. Williams' private library and the two Utah library books, and about which Governor Cumming said and wrote nothing, and at the time of his statements, so far as we know, had heard nothing; neither is it a matter about which he has any official concern, it resting alone between Stiles, Williams and the aggressors.

After so many plain statements, certificates, &c., and with the present pointed and truthful distinction about libraries and books, and that Governor Cumming alluded alone, in the LIBRARY question, to the UTAH library, will the professed embodiments of truth, purity and enlightenment, to wit:—the "special," "our own," &c., "correspondents from Utah," be so far honorable as to correct their ignorant or wilful misstatements as publicly and widely as they have made them?

The Utah library, which was given to this Territory by the Government, and which Governor Cumming alone referred to, has always been and is now kept in a far better state of preservation than any library of its size and age that we have ever been familiar with. A few books may be missing through loaning, as happens to all libraries that loan, as the Utah library is required by U. S. law to do to certain persons; but by far the greatest loss in that way is strongly supposed to have occurred when a late judge returned home by way of California, it being quite currently reported that he sold Utah library books in that State.

A SPECIAL CONFERENCE of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was held in this city on Saturday and Sunday the 13th and 14th inst., in pursuance to adjournment from the 6th of October last. The First Presidency, Quorum of the Twelve, and Representatives from the various Bishoprics and Quorums of the Church were in attendance. The usual Church business was transacted, and several items of interest were entered into. A good spirit prevailed, and the brethren returned to their duties enjoying the spirit of their callings, full of gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His kindness to His people.

PIKE'S PEAK GOLD was still creating great excitement, as learned from the St. Louis Republican of Oct. 15. A few unfavorable reports were mingled with the numerous flattering ones, but not so many unfavorable as is usual in such cases.

THE CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana are said to have resulted in opposition to the Administration.

The Weekly Day Book, Oct. 16, states that the opposition gain in Congress is 8 in Pennsylvania, 2 in Ohio and 2 in Indiana.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH CABLE was not yet in working order, so late as Oct. 16.

THE PARAGUAY EXPEDITION had not sailed, Oct. 11.

MORPHY VICTORIOUS.—The Courier des Etats Unis, of Tuesday, has a letter from Paris, announcing the triumph of Morphy over Harrwitz. The American champion was to depart immediately for Breslau to break a lance with Anderssen.