

shall he do, if no good friend like Alice Fletcher stands by to show him how? And what shall he do when he gets his land in severalty? If he is surrounded by the common and undivided lands of a reservation, he has no law worth the name to protect his rights. If he is in a State, he becomes a citizen of the State, and the protection of the federal government is withdrawn. At the same time, not like other citizens of the State, he is for twenty-five years to be a tenant, fettered in the use of his property. He cannot even sell the dead and down wood. The realty must be preserved intact. It is so difficult for him to find out what he can do to make his land available, that with all the red tape and the adjacent hostility, about all he can do, legally and properly, is to lie down and die on his land.

Among other difficulties spoken of were the following: The lands after allotment are to be free from taxation for twenty-five years, because the Indian is adjudged too poor to pay taxes; yet how are the schools for the education of his children to be maintained? Are all Indian marriages to be recognized in a manner that will make their offspring heritable? Should an Indian die without issue, will his land revert to the government?

So many perplexing features of this character were brought to light during the deliberations of the conference that it was resolved to urge Congress to adopt further legislation for the purpose of meeting them. The Thayer bill, now pending in the Senate, was endorsed, with the recommendation that certain provisions be added to it.

These conferences, participated in as they are by well-known philanthropists, earnest and able workers and thinkers, and even by high government officials, who all labor together for the amelioration of the condition of the Indian, are a pleasing sign of the times, and, it is hoped, an indication that a better day is dawning for the red man.

In this connection a statement of the number of Indians in the United States may be of interest. The following statistics were lately compiled by O. O. Howard and published in *Wide Awake*:

Making a careful computation from the latest reports which embrace all the states and territories, excepting Alaska, we count 262,620. The accompanying table shows us how they are distributed:

Arizona, 21,163; North Carolina, 3,100; California, 11,409; Oregon, 5,055; Dakota, 31,409; Texas, 387; Idaho, 4,276; Utah, 2,699; Indian Territory, 83,

234; Washington Territory, 10,996; Iowa, 354; Wisconsin, 7,838; Kansas, 976; Wyoming Territory, 1,855 Michigan, 9,577; Florida (Seminoles and Ind T.), 892; Minnesota, 5,287; Montana, 14,775; Maine (Old Town Indians), 410; Nebraska, 3,602; Nevada, 8,316; New Mexico, 30,003; New York, 5,007. Total 262,620.

These figures are accompanied by the statement that, as Indians become accustomed to the food of the white man, and his regular habit of eating, they thrive and are more healthful than when in their savage state, gormandizing one day and starving the next. That they are not decreasing in number, but on the contrary more than hold their own, is another indication that the fate of early extinction, so often predicted for them, will not overtake them.

A WISE DECISION.

WE believe the very large majority of the citizens of Salt Lake will endorse the action of the City Council on Tuesday evening in reference to the public buildings question. There are half a dozen different views taken of this matter by the public.

First, there are a few persons who think we have no need of any other buildings for the city or county than those we have at present.

Second, there are others who think the City Hall is good enough but that we need a better County Court House.

Third, there are many who contend that we need both City and County buildings, but that they should be separate structures, in different parts of town, so that one district may not reap all the benefits of their presence, business being drawn to the neighborhood where they are erected.

Fourth, many others argue that on the score of economy, if for no other reason, a joint city and county building should be erected, in some central place of easy general access, and that a finer and more imposing edifice, suitable to the progress of the times, can be built on the joint plan than separately.

Fifth, there are advocates of the purchase of the Little corner or its exchange for the City Hall corner, so that more space can be had and utilized for the joint building.

Sixth, a great many object to this exchange, and claim that the present site cannot be excelled for the purpose designed, and that it is poor policy to destroy the present City Hall while there is room on the

corner for a building sufficiently large and commodious for all needful purposes, if the edifice is run up high enough and fitted with an elevator and other modern improvements.

The City Council has decided on the last named plan and we are of the opinion that objections to it will vanish to a large degree when the report of the committee is ready and fairly considered. Of course there will be a few individuals who will disagree with the majority and stick to and air their personal views and find opportunity to inveigh against the Council because their wisdom (?) has not prevailed.

When the work is done, however, and a fine structure worthy of this city and county, stands on the convenient spot decided upon, we think all fault-finding will be silenced and only admiration and praise for the public spirited officials who started the project on a broad basis will be entertained and expressed.

The work should be pushed without delay. It should be well done in every particular. There should be no "shoddy" about it, but everything should be of the best that can be had. The building will furnish employment for many laborers and mechanics, and the money expended will be circulated in the community so that the movement will be a public benefit.

THE ELEMENTS OF UNION.

At the sessions of the late General Conference of the Church, nearly all of the speakers who addressed the assembled multitude dwelt to some extent upon the importance of the community being united both in temporal and spiritual concerns, which are intimately associated. Evidences of a disposition among the people to pull apart from each other were deeply deplored, and well they may be. Nothing is more dangerous to a community than a segregation of interests, which indicates the prevalence of the worldly spirit.

The Latter-day Saints are engaged in working out the greatest social problem of this or any other age. The rate of its progress towards solution depends upon the course they pursue. Every tendency to division causes proportionate delay. Union of purpose and pursuit means rapid success, until the world shall behold the spectacle of a united, peaceful, prosperous people, minus a single member who could properly be called poor. Th