

Edward W. Laird and John G. Evans, Poplar Bluff, Butter Co., Mo.  
F. J. Christensen and John J. Simmons, Millston, Jackson Co., Wisconsin.

F. M. Dayton and Hyrum Christensen, Augusta, St. Claire Co., Wisconsin.  
Please publish the above in the DESERET NEWS and oblige your brother in the Gospel.

JOSHUA R. CLARK,  
Pres. N. S. Mission.

### INDIAN RESERVATION.

The following from the Congressional Record of Tuesday, March 17th, will be read by Utah people with a good deal of interest:

Mr. Cannon—I ask unanimous consent to call from the table the answer of the secretary of the interior to the resolution of inquiry which passed the Senate on the 4th instant, and I shall move to have that answer referred to the committee on Indian affairs. I desire to make a few observations upon it before it is committed, if I may have the permission of the Senate to do so. The whole matter will not occupy more than five minutes of time, and in all probability will not lead to any debate.

The Vice President—The question is on the motion of the Senator from Utah, to take from the table the communication referred to by him, the indorsement upon which will be stated.

The secretary read as follows:

A letter from the secretary of the interior, in response to the Senate resolution of the 4th of March, as to the reason the nonagricultural and unallotted lands of the Uncompahgre Indian reservation have not been restored to the public domain and proclaimed upon to entry and location.

The Vice-President—The question is on the motion of the senator from Utah to refer the communication to the committee on Indian affairs.

Mr. Cannon—Mr. President, it would be unfair to send to the committee on Indian affairs, without a statement which will show to the Senate its utter incompleteness, this alleged answer to the resolution of the Senate, sent by the secretary of the interior, and without calling the attention of this body to the wrong which is being perpetrated, not only upon the people of Utah and upon the West, but upon the treasury of the United States, by the persistent inaction of the secretary of the interior and his refusal, by that inaction, to obey the mandate of the law. This communication is not an answer. It is merely an evasion. Where it is not discourteous to the Senate it is misleading. It is discourteous to the Senate in that it does not give any reply to a very proper inquiry propounded to the secretary of the interior by the Senate, but refers to the geological report of some special agent, who was sent, outside of the law, with instructions to examine the character of the land which the law says shall be thrown open to settlement and mineral entry. It is no more a reply for the secretary of the interior to state in the Senate that certain valuable mineral deposits exist there than it would be a proper answer of the secretary of the navy to the Senate, had he been required by law to build certain warships, to say that

some scientist had discovered a new barnacle which fastened upon the bottoms of vessels, and therefore the secretary of the navy deemed it inadvisable to execute the law.

The communication of the secretary of the interior is misleading, in this, that it states that the matter of the opening of the Uncompahgre reservation is now in the hands of the President of the United States and the secretary has not been advised as to the President's purpose. Nowhere in all the voluminous correspondence which has been had on this question is there any showing, nor has there been any public showing by the secretary of the interior, that he has reported to the President of the United States according to the terms and provisions of the law the designation of the lands not allotted to the Indians.

I desire to call attention to the fact that the Senate may now have notice of it and that the committee on appropriations may have notice of it, but there was appropriated in 1894 the sum of \$16,000 to pay for the work of a commission to allot lands in severalty to the Uncompahgre Indians and to treat with the Utah Indians in Utah for the disposal of portions of their reservation. That commission was appointed in November of 1894, and proceeded to Utah, ostensibly to engage in its work of treating with the Indians, but as late as March, 1895, in communication with the secretary of the interior, the commission states that it so far has been unable to do anything because of the fact that the ground was covered with snow. The whole business has been conducted just along that line of ignorance and misconception. A commission was sent into the tops of the Rocky Mountains at the beginning of winter to examine the soil as to its character and fitness for agricultural purposes; a commission of gentlemen who knew nothing whatever concerning the character of the soil, no matter how estimable they may have been in other respects, was sent to the reservation and encamped there for months, drawing pay from the treasury of the United States and absolutely performing no public service, as is shown by the official correspondence.

Mr. President, in asking that this so-called answer of the secretary of the interior shall go to the committee on Indian affairs. I desire most emphatically now to protest against any appropriation which may be charged to the account of the people of the West in treating with the Indians, which shall be so mismanaged; and I desire here and now publicly to protest against the implied assumption of the secretary of the interior that he alone knows anything about the character of the land in the Utah and Uncompahgre reservations of Utah. I insist that he has not the right to set up his individual opinion against the declaration of the law of the United States, which says that, under certain contingencies, these reservations shall be cleared open to settlement.

The men who have had the matter to charge have had the impertinence to assume that the only ones desiring to have the reservations opened were men who are the agents of corporations seeking to obtain control of the asphaltum lands of Utah.

The secretary of the interior inti-

mates as the only possible reason for his failure to carry out the law, his individual opinion that it would be well for Congress to pass an act requiring that the mineral lands in the Uncompahgre Reservation shall be sold or leased at public sale to the highest bidder for cash; that if this were done vast sums of money would come into the public treasury, and if the lands were allotted in the ordinary way, by settlement and mineral entry, the government would be deprived of extensive profits which should go into its treasury.

Mr. President, this is a misconception of the real situation. If these mineral lands should be put up at auction and sold to the highest bidder they would necessarily fall in the hands of large corporations. If they are located as are all other mineral lands of the United States, the hardy pioneer, the man who has made his prospecting trips through that region of country, will, under the law, take his just portion of the valuable land, paying therefor the amount fixed by statute. The law restrains the entries on the asphaltum ground to ten acres to each person, as it restrains the entries of all mineral lands to defused areas.

Mr. President, it would not be fair to leave the matter without protesting, in the name of the West, against the management of affairs so distant from Washington by a sentiment so wholly alien to the progress of the West. It is a great misfortune that the secretary of the interior is not required by law to know something of the country over which he exercises such absolute jurisdiction—a jurisdiction more autocratic than that of the Congress of the United States, because here, when laws are to be passed, affecting the welfare of the West, there is discussion. With the secretary of the interior there is merely his victim of personal opinion.

The Vice President—The question is on the motion of the Senator from Utah to refer the communication of the secretary of the interior to the committee on Indian affairs.

Mr. Gordon—I hope the senator will not object to the communication lying over for one more day. It is a new question to some of us, and I should like an opportunity of looking into it to some extent while the subject is still before the Senate.

Mr. Cannon—Certainly. I have no objection to that, Mr. President.

The Vice President—The motion of the senator from Utah will go over.

### MINISTERS VS. Y. M. C. A.

A merry row has arisen between the Ministers' association and the Y. M. C. A. of this city. The affair, it appears, was first exploited at the regular Monday meeting of the preachers Monday. The next time serious attention was paid to it was at a meeting of the Young Men's Christian association last night. It was there that the real trouble commenced.

As carefully gleaned from reliable sources the story of the strife is as follows:

The annual meeting of the Y. M. C. A. will be held at the Salt Lake Theater April 5th. Prominent speakers both from home and abroad are ex-