

Sitting Bull Asks for Mediation.

Sitting Bull is not only something of a General, but seems also to have imbibed from rude sources some notions of diplomacy. It is now seriously reported that the Sioux leader suggests the mediation of the British Queen in the settlement of the matters in dispute between his people and the government of the United States. Sitting Bull evidently believes his people to have grievances which justify them in making war, and he is so confident of the justice of his cause that he is willing to refer the case to the impartial judgment of civilization. By making this proposition through the Canadian Indians the Sioux chief shows some appreciation of the facts of history. The Canadian Government has never had a war with its Indian subjects, because Her Majesty's treaties have been fully complied with and rigorously enforced. The rights of the Indians have been respected on the part of the British Government, and on his part the Indian has proven himself human by appreciating the good treatment and remaining peaceable. These facts have evidently impressed the savage with a notion that Her Majesty holds to the principle that treaty obligations, though made and entered into with weak tribes and barbarians, are in honor as binding on the government making them as if made with a power strong enough to enforce them or to punish a breach of their covenants. So he chooses the Queen as a mediator, believing that the compliment is not undeserved. And it is a compliment, one of which the grandest monarch in the world might be proud. The savage chieftain knows that his people are being driven from their homes and the land of their heritage in violation of the most solemn treaties not three years old. He knows that the existence of gold in the Black Hills did not make the country any less his own, or the obligations of the treaty any less sacred or binding in honor upon the government. In all this the savage exhibits a knowledge of natural rights quite equal if not superior to anything in this line exhibited by the government. It should not now surprise us to find that Sitting Bull regards his people as an independent nation and himself as king. The government has concluded solemn treaties with them just as it would with any other foreign and independent power. For the purpose of these treaties at least the government recognized the free sovereignty of the Indian, notwithstanding it violated the treaties on its part just when it chose. But this latter was regarded by the Indian as merely an act of bad faith and not in any sense a denial of his free sovereignty. So we are not at all sure that Sitting Bull is not entitled to the high recognition he claims. He has a cause, and asks for a court in which it shall be heard, and there certainly can be no doubt but that if such a court could be had he would win his cause before it, and the traditional character of the Indian for treachery and bad faith would lose some of its blackness by comparison with some of the acts of the Christian civilization which furnished precedent and example. — *Sacramento Record-Union, Aug. 24.*

How the Crops are in the South.

It is the general opinion of farmers hereabouts now, that possibly, after filling "all out doors," they may be able to find room for the balance of the corn crop in their cribs and barns. The crop will be huge—unprecedentedly so in the "memory of the oldest inhabitant." — *Sweetwater (East Tenn.) Enterprise.*

From nearly all points in the country, we hear of the most magnificent cotton and corn crops, according to present outlook, had in the country since the war. Some of our farmers will not be able to house all their corn. — *Cartersville (Geo.) Express.*

Corn is actually begging in Iuka now, for the first time since the war. — *Iuka (Miss.) Herald.*

Crops were never more flourishing than at the present time. Wheat, hay and potatoes turned out finely. — *Cumberland (Ky.) Courier.*

Humphreys county has a larger number of hogs now than for many years. Her crop of pork promises to be largely in excess of any pos-

sible local demand. — *Waverly (Tenn.) Journal.*

There are already over twenty mammoth tobacco stemmeries in this city, and yet there are not sufficient for the tobacco traffic of Owensboro. The contract for the erection of two more factories has been let. — *Owensboro (Ky.) Examiner.*

Really we do not think our people need be talking about bankruptcy and repudiation, having just harvested such a splendid wheat crop, and with such flattering prospects for a fine yield of corn this fall, and besides the country is full of cattle, horses and mules, notwithstanding they are being shipped away by hundreds and thousands. — *Shelbyville (Tenn.) Gazette.*

The recent rains seem to encourage the farmers, and they are jubilant that they are, thus abundantly blest with fine crops. This centennial year may also be a year of jubilee. — *Mountain (Ky.) Echo.*

THE TIMBER SUPPLY AND WASTE.—James Little of Montreal has published a pamphlet on the probable duration of the timber supply of Canada and the United States, if the destruction of forests goes on at the present rate. Beginning with Maine, he limits her forest resources to a period from five to ten years. Her principal pineries are nearly all gone, and many of the mills erected for the white pine trade are running on spruce of small dimensions. The Eastern and all the Middle States, except New York and Pennsylvania, are just as badly off. The Adirondacks still have a large quantity of spruce left, and the Susquehanna valley in Pennsylvania is still rich in pine; but it is estimated that a few years more will clear the good timber from both. Most of the Southern states abound in pitch pine and cypress, but have no white pine, which is the wood most in demand for general use. To the vast stretches of white pine in Michigan he allows a life of only six years; and he takes the same view of Wisconsin and Minnesota, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and the prairie States and Territories generally have but little forest land, and are largely dependent on Michigan and Wisconsin. Washington and Oregon have timber to spare, and distribute it along the whole western coast of North and South America. In conclusion he advises a more liberal encouragement of the cultivation of new forests, if only to avert in part the serious consequences of the diminution of rainfalls, which follows these unsparing raids upon the timber lands. — *Ex.*

GOVERNMENT AND TAXES.—We have the most extravagant and expensive government on earth, in proportion to what there is to govern, and pay the bills, and this very extravagance (and consequent high taxes) is one of the things that bears so heavily upon trade, and crushes it to the earth. Aside from the interest on the public debt and the pension list, which are legitimate results of the war, and in no sense extravagant—aside from these I say compare the expenses of the government in 1870 with the expenses in 1875. Taxation has increased two hundred per cent., population forty per cent., and wealth not at all. I don't believe the country, taken as a whole, North, South, East and West, is worth much more than in 1860, the census returns of 1870 to the contrary notwithstanding. The returns of 1880 will tell a different story. We will be well on the road to hard pan by that time, and the aggregate of wealth returned will be less than that of 1870. It will take much more than the labor and production of the intervening ten years to make up the losses and reckless extravagances of the war and paper money period. — *Cincinnati Commercial.*

NERVOUSNESS AND NERVINES.—Nervousness is one of the prices we have to pay for civilization; the nervous savage is a being unheard of. For this disorder, which is partly of mental and partly of a bodily nature, relief is sought in various ways, and among these we may place the employment of narcotics. The temporary relief afforded by these drugs is very apt to lead those who suffer from nervous sensations to put too much trust in and resort too frequently to them.

In the long run they prove most destructive to health. Their use has of late become so frequent as to threaten society with a serious evil. It has been boldly contended that chloral is to be found in the work-boxes and baskets of nearly every lady in the west end of the metropolis, "to calm her nerves." No doubt this is an exaggeration, but it is a fact that in New York chloral punch had become an institution scarcely a year after the introduction of chloral into medical practice. And now it turns out that Germany—"sober, orderly, paternally-ruled Germany"—has such a thing as morphia disease spreading among its population. The symptoms are not unlike those of opium-eating. Experience suggests that persons suffering from this disease should at once be deprived of the drug. Their wilfulness and liability to relapse, however, are so great that it is said that only about twenty five per cent. have been able to recover in a large number of cases. — *Cassell's Magazine.*

Correspondence.

Branch Organized—Drouth—Poor Crops.

PRINCETON,
Mille Lac Co., Minn.,
August 22nd, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

I hereby take pleasure to inform you of the progress of the gospel of the Son of God in this part of the world. The Lord has blessed my labor of late very abundantly. I organized here, day before yesterday, a branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, consisting of sixteen members, and ordained Brother Wm. H. Cowles to the office of an Elder, and set him apart to preside over the branch of Farmersville, and Bro. Charles M. Nokes to the office of Teacher to assist him. We partook of the Lord's Supper, and the Spirit of the Lord was with us, and we had a good time of great joy together.

The crops here are very light this year, on account of the dry and hot weather. Many farms will not average five bushels to the acre of small grain. Corn and late potatoes are very promising.

I am also glad to see the counsel given in my old home, Logan, to lay up grain and prepare for the day of famine, that the Saints may have plenty.

I remain respectfully your brother in the Gospel of Christ,
B. P. WULFENSTEIN.

—In Scotland, two young women, disappointed and disgusted with men, resolved to do without them and cleave to each other. They drew lots to see which should play the man, and the one so indicated dressed as a man, and took the name of James Ham. They both went off to another part of the country, and kept a tavern, as landlord and landlady, for thirty years, the secret coming out only when the "landlord" died.

—Albert Rhodes, in the *Galaxy*, asks, "Shall We Drink Wine?" He answers that we shall (Dixie wine probably), arguing that general wine drinking would be the most efficacious method of doing away with drunkenness. Would not that be a clear case of *similia similibus curantur*?

—Speaking of the hanging of a negro for violating a woman while her husband was at church, the (Tex.) *Jimplecute* says, "This is the first occurrence of lynch law in Cass County, and it will be sustained by every man who has a soul in his body."

—Burglars are busy every night now at Hartford, Connecticut. A Mrs. Spencer, on whose house burglars were operating at 2 a. m. the other day, took a three foot tin horn, put it out of the window, and blew a warning blast with all her might. The burglars dropped their implements, leaped the fence, and tore away into the darkness "as if the 'Old Boy' was after them," no thinking for a moment that it was only the old girl.

—Mlle. Marie Poirson, the daughter of a wealthy shipowner, was the affianced of Count de Fersant, a French sub-lieut. of artillery. Both his legs were carried away by a cannonball at Sedan. But Marie insisted on marrying him notwithstanding.



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WM. WILLES,
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