

Miles, via Missoula, that two companies of soldiers in the Yellowstone region are surrounded north of the Cave Hills by 500 or 600 Indians, and have sent a courier out with a notification of danger to the settlers. General Miles says there are Indians in that vicinity, but discredits the report that troops are hemmed in. He has, however, ordered reinforcements sent.

**PINE RIDGE AGENCY, S. D., Dec. 22.**—Stands First, one of the most sagacious of Indian scouts, has returned from the hostile camp. General Brooke sent him out last Thursday and he spent Saturday in the hostile camp. When he attempted to present the peaceful mission on which he had been sent the Indians leveled their guns at him and his voice was drowned in a babel of war cries. Then one of the leaders among the hostiles said to him that they would listen to no more peace talk and would never again allow an advocate of peace to leave their camp alive. The white soldiers were cowards and afraid to fight them. They called Stands First a woman and the slave of the white men.

Stands First asked them what would become of their wives and families when the soldiers came after them, and the hostiles replied that they could protect them. He says there are a few in the hostile camp who would be willing to come in, but the great majority, he thinks, will not.

**PIERRE, S. D., Dec. 25.**—Captain Norville, special agent, has just returned from Fort Bennett and reports that the Indian war there is over. The Indians were afraid they would be massacred or they would have come in before. After the Indians arrived at Bennett councils were held to determine whether they would give up their arms or not. Agent Palmer said: "No arms, no rations or blankets." This soon brought them to time and all the arms are now stacked up at the agency.

Captain Hearst, the commanding officer at Fort Scully, has arrived and reports the capitulation of 174 Uncapas, from Rosebud Agency. Narcias Narcello, a farmer, brought in 412 of Big Foot's Indians. Out of these ninety-eight stands of arms were collected. Sitting Bull's men want to remain at Cheyenne and say they are afraid to return to Standing Rock. All have surrendered and the best of care is being given them. Many of the leaders among the Indians acted very ugly in making the final settlements.

**OMAHA, Dec. 25.**—A special from Pine Ridge says the Indians in the Bad Lands are still in council. Couriers came in today with the news that Short Bull said, if the Government will agree not to disarm his men nor take their ponies, he will come in. The Indians are holding out in fear that they are to be given oxen instead of ponies.

A wagon train left Pine Ridge today with camp supplies for the ninth cavalry, which marched yesterday. Fighting is looked for if the hostiles don't come in soon.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

### New Probate Judge.

The confirmation by the Senate of William O. Orton, of Utah Territory, to be judge of probate in Garfield County, Utah, took place last Tuesday, December 23d.

### An Archbishop for this City.

A cablegram from Rome announces that at the coming Catholic consistory Bishop Katzer will be appointed Archbishop of Milwaukee, Bishop Scannell Archbishop of Omaha and Bishop Scanlan Archbishop of Salt Lake City.

### Eight Hundred Chinamen Killed.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19.**—The steamship *Belgic* arrived this morning, bringing advices saying the deaths resulting from the powder explosion at Tai Ping, China, were more than first estimated. It being stated that eight hundred coffins were taken out of the city, and yet there were not enough to bury all the dead. A Chinaman lighting a pipe while repairing the roof of the powder mill is said to have caused the catastrophe.

### Church School Matter.

#### OFFICE OF THE GENERAL BOARD OF EDUCATION,

Dec. 27th, 1890.

In accordance with instructions from the General Board of Education, the first number of each month of the *Juvenile Instructor* has been selected as the official organ of communication in all matters pertaining to our Church school system. It is, therefore, recommended that all Church schools and religious classes should make arrangements to keep these copies of the *Instructor* permanently on file.

KARL G. MAESER, D. L. D.,  
Gen. Supt. L. D. S. Schools.

### The Rat Plague.

**LONDON, Dec. 19.**—The rat plague in the Fen district is becoming a matter of most serious concern to the farmer, and he is probably bewildered and baffled as to where it will all end. One man in the Fen country boasts of having killed in one parish this year over 8000 rats, and 2500 of these were extirpated on one farm. The parish is still infested with the rodents, and the impression seems to be growing that this rat region is the chosen land of the rat, from the fact that he can burrow easily into the banks and can always obtain water without going far in quest.

### Returned Elder.

Elder S. R. Brough, of Porterville, Morgan County, has just returned from his mission to Great Britain. He left his home in October, 1886, and labored for two years and a half in Wales, presiding over that conference the last six months. He then labored in Ireland for eleven months and in Scotland for five months, presiding over these two conferences. Elder Brough states that he has met with

some persecution through the influence of adversaries, but he has also found many warm friends. He has enjoyed good health and felt happy in the work.

### Italians not Allowed to Land.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 23.**—The 406 Italians who arrived today on the steamship *Hindostan* were evidently the output of some poorhouse, the officials of which decided it would be much cheaper to pay their passage to the United States than to keep them for years. They were the dirtiest and most ragged lot that ever arrived at this port. They carried no baggage, and were clad in barely sufficient clothing to cover themselves. Nine of them were detained by Dr. Juniteras on account of sickness or old age, two of them were lame, one was blind in one eye, and one had a tumor on his forehead. They will all be returned, as they had but a few cents each, and only one box of clothing among the party.

### The British Government.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 19.**—The *Herald* prints a sensational Ottawa special this morning, saying: "Confidential advices from Washington strongly confirm press utterances that point to a crisis next season in the fur seal controversy. After the rejection by President Harrison of the latest British proposal for arbitration, the Imperial Government will suspend further efforts toward a settlement of disputes. By May next a strong force of war vessels will be assembled, of the smaller class, to be sent to Behring Sea to protect from removal or seizure of British vessels. The naval force to enter Beliring Sea will be large enough to induce the American Government to refrain from interference with the sealing vessels, unless the President really desires to bring on the crisis that the American press is predicting. Our authorities look for no trouble and for no molestation of Canadian sealing vessels next summer."

### Booth's Salvation Plans.

**LONDON, Dec. 26.**—The *Times* publishes a three-column article severely criticising General Booth's scheme of social regeneration, as set forth in his book, "In Darkest England." The writer of the article says: "General Booth cannot think he is authorized to collect by force the moral lunatics, irredeemable slaves of vice, crime and drink. He cannot expect us to believe that he can compel to work men who admittedly will not work, or that any colony of such men, even under the stimulus of cash, could be compelled to be self-supporting."

The article accuses Booth of child-like ignorance of farming and recklessness in entering on a contract for the purchase of land for a farm colony at £15 per acre. An editorial states the article is the first installment of a critical examination of the scheme by a well-qualified writer, and says: "We do not affect to regard the scheme with anything but profound distrust. We urge the