

cated anywhere in the world except perhaps a western mining camp and even rarely there. I saw an Indian, negro, white man and a Chinaman sitting at one table playing a game of cards together in a saloon kept by a Mexican named Antonio Cardinas. It has always been an unsolved problem in my mind which of the five was the representative of civilization.

There is a good deal of human nature in the Nevada Indian which means to come down to ordinary talk to get all he can and keep all he gets. Pioche was built in a desert Ravine and previous to its occupation by the whites was considered of little value by the Indians, but as soon as the white occupation arrived, the place became a source of revenue to the Indians in the shape of cast off clothing and refuse from butcher shop and restaurants. The swill tub into which all the scraps are thrown is fine pickings for an Indian, whose diet has previously consisted of pine-nuts, lizards, snakes, rabbits, etc., and not an over supply of that. Of course there were two claimants to this valuable franchise i. e., my old friends the Pahranaagat Indians and the Meadow Valley Indians. I always thought the Meadow Valley Indians ought to have had the ground as their head-quarters were only ten miles from Pioche and the Pahranaagat Indians were about 50 miles away. But the rights and wrongs of a question have very little to do in the settlement of public questions by nations or Indian tribes, especially if there is anything to be gained by taking either one side or the other. Old Silver Top explained to me the pros and cons of the case, but as he was a Pahranaagat Indian, his idea was that the Meadow Valley Indians were altogether wrong. A good many palavers took place between the two tribes but as each tribe whether right or wrong, was bound to have Pioche for its stamping ground these palavers did not amount to anything. The difficulty at last got into an acute state, and finally war was declared. The Meadow Valley Indians were in possession of the town, i. e., in possession of the rights to pick up the refuse, and all seemed lovely when three or four Pahranaagat