

Where a man fell there he now lies. In the streets at every step lay human remains rotting and swelting in the sun. The stench was overpowering. Five thousand in all were killed here and about 90 girls were carried off. The surviving inhabitants live in wooden huts outside the village in great misery. To Achmet Ogha and his men belong the distinction of having committed, perhaps, the most heinous crime that has stained the history of the present century. Nevertheless he has been decorated by his Government, as have also several other leaders in these cruelties.

The report concludes:—There was undoubtedly a revolution which had to be crushed by armed force, but the Government is to blame for calling out the Bashi-Bazouks, for had it sent regular troops earlier the Bashi Bazouks would have been unnecessary. The manner in which the rising was suppressed was inhuman to the last degree, 50 innocent persons suffering for every guilty one.

Number and Strength of the Sioux and their Allies.

To understand the extent of the Indian war we now have upon our hands, it is necessary to have a correct knowledge of the position and power of the hostile Sioux and their allies. In one of the late reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs the location of the different agencies is given, with the number and condition of the Indian population of the United States, exclusive of Alaska, is estimated at 295,084. In Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming, there are nearly 70,000, divided as follows:

DAKOTA AGENCIES.

	Men.	Women.	Tl.
Sisseton Agency (Sioux).	682	582	1,534
Devil's Lake (Sioux).	434	586	1,020
Grand River (Sioux).	—	—	6,269
Cheyenne River (Sioux).	—	—	6,000
Upper Missouri (Sioux).	1,600	1,395	2,995
Fort Berthold (Gros Ventres, Mandan, and Arickarees).	901	1,202	2,103
Yankton (Sioux).	—	—	1,017
Ponca.	383	355	738
Wheatstone (Sioux).	2,350	2,650	5,000
Flandreau special (Sioux).	—	—	100

MONTANA.

Blackfeet Agency (Blackfeet, Bloods, and Pikan-j).	7,000
Milk River Agency (Sioux).	10,625
At other Agencies and wandering.	14,000

WYOMING.

Red Cloud Agency (Sioux and Cheyennes).	9,37
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Total number in hostile country 68,008

According to the estimates given in the same report, about sixty per cent. are women; this gives 27,000 Indian warriors within this territory, which, considering the number of bands that have never settled at any of the reservations, is a low estimate of their strength. According to the same calculation the Sioux and Cheyennes, now openly at war, would be able to bring nearly 22,000 men into the field. From all accounts received from the seat of war, one fact seems clear, and it is that the estimate made as to the number of Indians actually on the warpath and operating against the troops is below the real number.

Immediately following the intelligence of the destruction of Gen. Custer, and his command, agents at nearly all the agencies reported the wholesale decampment of the Indians under their charge, all of them

taking care to be well provided with arms and ammunition. The almost helpless position of the troops since the disasters of Rosebud creek and the Little Big Horn river had done much to increase this desertion of the agencies by the Indians, for these victories have given them a perfect confidence in their ability to whip anything and everything white, and this confidence has added a large number of warriors to Sitting Bull's command who would otherwise have consumed their military ardor by dancing buffalo and dog dances and stuffing themselves with rations at their respective reservations.

The Indian question has assumed proportions within the past few months that it has never before had within the history of the country. And this is not surprising, for the treatment the Indians have received at the hands of the Government during the past eight years has been as shameless as dishonour.

It is a fact certified to in one of the late reports of the Interior Department that out of an Indian population of 295,084, the number under the influence of the agency is not more than 37,637. In the same report the estimate for the year was over \$1,000,000. It is provided for in all treaties made with the different tribes that they shall reside on certain established reservations and that their supplies depend on fulfilling this part of the contract. This being the case, the cost of feeding and caring for each agency Indian amounts to about \$250 per year.

Late advices from the West state that numbers of the Indians who fought under Sitting Bull in his several encounters with our troops are returning to their agencies in order to receive food and also medical treatment for the wounded. But these things should not be given them till they are placed in such a condition as to render them harmless for the future.

The writer has, within the past three years, visited nearly all the agencies named above, and had opportunity to judge of the condition of the Indians, and the effects produced by the policy of the Government.

One of the principal sources of trouble has been that the Government has treated the different Indian tribes as so many independent nations. While this is done, and while the Indians are recognized by solemn treaty obligations as independent, it is to be expected that their conduct will be governed by their sense of what independence means.

A just and proper regard should be paid to the rights of the Indians, and a suitable provision made for them, but still they should not be recognized or treated, as far as the laws are concerned, other than as citizens of the Union. In nearly all cases the "treaties" made with the Indians are found incomplete and unsatisfactory to the Government within a few years after the making, and then commences the process of terrorism and fraud on the part of the Indian agents toward their charges, in order to benefit the greater or lesser "Indian Kings" that may be interested in the new deal.

It is impossible for any one who has not been an actual eye witness to the condition of Indian population at the different agencies, to believe that the crime and dishonesty that have been carried on by the agents of the Government could go unpunished for so many years. The most infernal ingenuity could not put in force a system more calculated to keep the Indian tribes constantly at war with us than the policy of the Government. Congress makes ample

provision for the maintenance of the different tribes, but the actual fact is that a system of plunder and starvation has gradually forced the more independent and manly Indians of the Northwest to openly oppose the Government, and assert their rights by force of arms. Who blames them? Treaties broken, promises unfulfilled, starving when plenty is so near at hand, able to obtain rifles, cartridges, and whiskey when they cannot obtain food or clothing, dying from diseases the result of their intercourse with the whites and of the want of medicines and medical treatment—such is a true picture of the average Indian agency during the winter months.

How much of the appropriations made by Congress the Indians actually receive no one can tell. The clothes are of the very poorest quality, and entirely insufficient to protect them from the severity of their northern winter. The blankets supplied are more for ornament than use. Food is usually of the most inferior kind, and scanty in amount, the samples of Indian supplies submitted to the Interior Department at Washington being no criterion of the goods delivered on the Upper Missouri river. Indian agents sell and change the goods under their charge for their own use and benefit.

The following receipt, taken from a report of the Department of the Interior gives a fair idea of Indian supplies:

One pair of bay horses, 7 years old; 1 set of double harness, 1 dozen 17-inch mill files, 2 14-inch ploughs, 2 ox wagons, 6 dozen Seidlitz powders, 6 pounds of compound syrup of squills, 6 dozen Ayer's pills, 1 gallon 96 per cent. alcohol, 3 bottles of rose water, 1 cook stove, 1 M 6,434 8 1/2 inch official envelopes; 1 M double thick white letter envelopes, 1 ream P and P Excelsior legal cap, 1 ream first-class Congress cap, 1 ream quarto post, 1 ream P and P first-class note, 1 seal, 1 penknife, 1 ruling pen, 1 gross pens, 1 dozen lead pencils, 1 cash box, 4 bottles (quart) Arnold's fluid, 4 bottles (8-ounce) mucilage, 2 bottles (2-ounce) carmine, 1 pound of wax, 1 memorandum book, 1 ream of vouchers, one portfolio.

To this receipt the agent makes a certificate in these words:

I certify on honor that I have actually delivered to the chiefs and head men of the Yankton Sioux of all the goods and property mentioned in the foregoing receipt. W. A. Burleigh, United States Indian Agent.

It is hardly necessary to state that the Yankton Sioux Indians, whose Agency the writer visited, had no possible use for rose water, sealing wax, or any of the other supplies.

Until the present Indian policy of the Government is changed—and this can only be accomplished by a total and complete removal of the thieves and vagabonds of the Indian ring and their official accomplices in crime—it is useless for the party in power to say that they wish the Indian war to end.—N. Y. Sun.

The Committee of the Serbian Skupstina have approved the proclamation of Milan King, and call on the Government to cooperate.

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a remedy that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. The great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, 237th House, New York City.