

the Indian Bureau was under no supervision, was entirely irresponsible; business methods at the agencies were of the poorest possible description; inspection of goods was conducted in a manner to give contractors every opportunity to swindle the government, and the Indians were systematically cheated. Under Mr. Schurz inefficient and weak men were weeded out and new and better men employed, and cheating the Indians became next to impossible. The rules of a reformed civil service for the guidance of agents were applied, a code of signals for agents was for the first time adopted, an Indian police was established, Indians were employed as freighters, and many other reforms were introduced. The evils experienced under his administration were due to our defective Indian system, traditions of the past, the neglect or mistakes of Congress, and the impossibility of one man in charge of five important bureaus watching every detail of our complicated Indian affairs.

Incidentally to a defence of his course respecting the Poneas, for which he had been severely censured, the Secretary himself says, "If those who participate in this agitation will take the trouble to raise their eyes for a moment from that one case which alone they see in the whole Indian question, they would perceive that under this administration many things have been done which deserve their hearty sympathy and co-operation; they would observe constant efforts to secure by statute to the Indians the equal protection of the laws and an impregnable title to their lands and homes; they would notice practicable measures, not merely to declare the Indian 'a person' in theory, but to make him a person capable of taking care of himself and of exercising and maintaining his rights; they would see the establishment of educational institutions, which, although new, have already produced most promising results; they would see thousands of Indians, but a short time ago vagrant and idle, now earning wages running into hundreds of thousands of dollars as freighters; they would see the organization of an Indian police, which has not only been most efficacious in the maintenance of law and order, but also in producing a moral discipline formerly unknown to them; they would see multitudes of Indians, but a few years since on the war-path, now building houses, cultivating their farms in their simple way, and raising cattle, and asking Congress for the white man's title to their lands; they would notice the conspicuous absence of those scandals in the Indian service which at another period called forth so much complaint; they would see a general treatment of the Indians humane and progressive; they would see the introduction of principles in our Indian policy which, at a future day, promise to work the solution of that difficult problem."

The proposed policy of the present administration, as outlined by President Garfield in June, 1881, to a delegation of Friends, is as follows: "Congress will be asked to pass a general bill providing allotments of reservations in severalty for the Indians, and giving them titles and education in mechanical and industrial arts, with the funds arising from sales of surplus lands. Bills will also be introduced to prohibit polygamy, providing for legal marriages, and for extending the criminal laws of neighboring States and Territories to Indian Reservations. Paid Indian training-schools are to be recommended, the present system of schools and police is to be