

THE policy of not dealing generously with Indians is now bearing fruit across the border, in the threatened uprising of the Indian tribes out west, and the restlessness that pervades a number of tribes under what has been termed the "Messiah Craze." The *New York Herald* of 15th November last, says :

"There is something profoundly pathetic in the eagerness with which the Sioux Indians are looking for their promised Messiah. For twenty years they have been taught to believe that he may make his appearance at any moment, and now the medicine men predict that before the grass is four inches high in the spring their longed-for and prayed-for deliverer will arrive.

"These Sioux have worked themselves into a condition of dangerous religious fanaticism. With pomp, ceremony and characteristic dances they celebrate the approach of the Saviour. He is to come clothed in power, to save the scattered remnant and re-establish the old *regime*, in which the Indians owned the forests of the country. The white man is to be driven away from possessions which he has stolen; game is to be plenty, and the happiness which prevailed before Columbus discovered the New World is to be once more the lot of the wigwam.

"This dream, which can never be realized, has filled the Sioux with unrest. Even the missionaries are in peril, and Mrs. Weldon has been forced to seek safety in Kansas.

"In the meantime the rations promised by the Government have not arrived and the Indians are starving. They have little or no clothing to protect them from the bitter cold, and just food enough to keep them hungry all the time. These wards of the Republic are cheated out of the food which has been promised, but when they complain or in very desperation rise in revolt and commit an outrage, they are shot down like dogs, and word is sent to "the Great Father" at Washington that the only good Indian is a dead Indian.