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WILLIAM S. MOSS, PHILIP A. ROACH, GEO. PEN. JOHNSTON ..... Proprietors

WEDNESDAY EVENING ..... JUNE 20

PITHY POLITICAL PARAGRAPHS.

☞ When will Ben Butler proceed to crush Private Dalzell?

☞ The Butler and MacVeagh business was only a cat and dog fight.

☞ If brevity is the soul of wit, Ben Butler's wit no longer has a soul to be saved.

☞ John Sherman does not know much, but the little he does know is a very mischievous sort of information.

☞ That amusing journal, the Chicago *Times*, speaks of Hayes, Stanley Matthews, and the rest of the Democratic party.

☞ The Louisville *Courier-Journal* condenses Robert Toombs' biography into the following sentence: "His life has been one long public curse."

☞ The retention of malignants and appointment of bummers at the South to offices of importance do not encourage the idea of reform.

☞ Only three years and the time for nominating Presidential candidates will be here, and then Grant will also be here, and will be stronger than ever, says the Philadelphia *Record*.

☞ Rutherford B. Hayes will visit Rhode Island during the army reunion, and will shake hands across the line with the people of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

☞ The New York *Tribune* is in an awful fix. Gail Hamilton keeps on writing, and writing, and it doesn't dare ask her to stop a little.

☞ The Baltimore *Sun* explains that Grant's new English title, D. C. L. (Doctor of Civil Law), really means nothing greater than "Esquire" or "Colonel."

☞ Another Sherman has been discovered. He is a nephew to the Secretary, his name is William, and he is Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco.

☞ We see by our dispatches that Turkey's financial condition is a bad one. She ought to start some National Banks, contract her currency, get Hugh McCulloch to lecture by letter to her and then—bust.

☞ Good old Peter Cooper—blessings on his frosty pow!—paternally patronized ex-Governor Hayes, and it was kind in him to do so; but it must be remembered that it was not Peter Cooper who was cheated out of the Presidency in order that Mr. Hayes might occupy his present position.

☞ Gail Hamilton's letters to the New York *Tribune* in behalf of stalwart Republicanism are becoming very tiresome. Stanley Matthews was the last of Blaine's enemies whom she buried under an avalanche of verbiage. Grace Greenwood's letters to the *Times* are much more lively and pointed.

☞ Secretary Sherman, having a nephew named Huggins in the Treasury, and having promulgated a decree that only one of a family should be employed in his Department, promptly and with Spartan firmness ousted Huggins from the Treasury, and removed him to a soft spot in the New York Custom-house. Let the wave of civil service reform roll on! exclaims the St. Louis *Times*.

☞ Much fun is being poked at Sloanaker, the Philadelphia man who has sent Hayes an earthenware bust. He is the same Pennsylvanian who sent Andrew Johnson flowers and got an office in return. The *Telegraph* says the bust is worth about a dollar and seventy-five cents, and that irreverent sheet makes the gift seem yet more insignificant by referring to Mr. Sloanaker as "Sloany."

☞ Waynie McVeagh—"You stole from the Government!" Bennie Butler—"You got married to get a gal's money!" Mrs. Rep.—"There, there, boys! Hush, now! That old party, Mrs. Dem., is a-listening at you, and the whole country'll be talkin' about us!"

☞ There is hope even for members of the New York Legislature. A man who has sunk so low as to hold a seat in the Assembly a few years ago, by turning over a new leaf and devoting himself to honest industry, has risen to the high position of Captain of a base-ball nine in Kansas.

☞ There are still some people in this country who are mad that the war is over. The best way to reduce this class is to disregard their insane utterances, enforce the laws uniformly and equally for white and black, and, as far as possible, elevate the standard of intelligence, citizenship and morality.

☞ Proctor Knott wants the rising generation taught that Mr. Hayes holds his office by fraud. What's the use? asks the St. Louis *Times*. It is not the rising generation whose duty it is to sit down on that fraud. The rising generation will suggest to the present generation that it should not have allowed Mr. Hayes to hold his office by fraud.

☞ We know who was right, and God knows that the South was right. God used the South as a means of evangelizing and finally liberating four millions of Africans, and, when His purpose was accomplished, we find the South stronger than ever, with its principles of government more clearly recognized than ever before, remarks the Mobile *Register*.

☞ The Administration is said to be ready for a complete change in Southern appointments because the present incumbents were given office as a reward for keeping up the color line and massing the negro vote. But the the trouble seems to be that neither honest Republicans or "Old-line Whigs," nor Democrats willing to accept, can be found to fill the places.

☞ The rumor in Washington is that Secretary Thompson expects to be able to fasten on the late Secretary Robeson knowledge of three attempts to fire the Navy Department building. It is quite possible, remarks the St. Louis *Times*, that Robeson may have had such guilty knowledge of the attempts, but not at all likely that Thompson will ever seriously undertake to prove it.

☞ Postmaster-General Key, who is "still a Democrat," is understood to return from his Southern trip with the postal commission convinced that there is no danger of division in his party or likelihood of any Whig revival. As a Democrat this discovery must rejoice Mr. Key's heart; as a pillar of the Administration he cannot properly make very merry over it.

☞ An ex-officer not very popular with his former comrades came to Washington from Ohio seeking a foreign appointment, and wrote back to some of his friends asking them to meet and pass resolutions recommending him for the position. In due time a resolution came to the President indorsing the candidate, and suggesting that on the score of fitness he be sent to Patagonia, and that immediately after his arrival all relations with that country be promptly suspended.

Looking with Keen Eyes.

A Washington letter-writer says: Mr. Conkling was here for a few days last week, but was very quiet. He declined to talk politics with any one, and I think that he is determined not to commit himself in any direction at present. He is a "Grant man," and neither for nor against Hayes at present. He is a little afraid of a reactionary wave toward Radicalism by and by. Suppose the Democratic House of Representatives plays the fool and the South acts badly, who can tell what the "solid North" may do in 1880. It may wipe out all conservatism, and elect a Radical House and President. Blaine, Grant and Conkling are looking to this possibility with keen eyes.

Beautiful but Discouraging.

It is reported that President Hayes, in an interview with the editor of the Cleveland *Leader*, expressed the opinion that as the result of his policy toward the South the Radicals would carry the States of North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Louisiana. He believed South Carolina Radicals would be glad to take up Wade Hampton and run him as their candidate at the next election. The faith of the President is very beautiful, remarks Morton's organ, the Indianapolis *Journal*, but there is a touch of Harold Skimpole about it that is discouraging to political men. The *Journal* takes little stock in the break up of the Democratic party.

Thoroughly Unfit.

Blaine, it is reported, will be one of the Radical Senators who will vote for the rejection of Ed. Noyes, the Cincinnati indexer, as Minister to France. If Blaine does this, the Cleveland *Plaindealer* alleges that he will be simply paying off a debt he owes to Noyes, who used every means fair and unfair, to defeat his Presidential aspirations. Noyes is most thoroughly unfit for the diplomatic position he aspires to, and if there is a Democratic United States Senator so lost to self-respect as to vote for Noye's confirmation as Minister to France, he ought to be booted from the Capitol at Washington to the very everglades of Florida.

THE IDAHO INDIAN WAR.

As we said, yesterday, the outbreak of the Indians in Northern Idaho is directly traceable to the bad faith and unwise policy of the Government. The original cause of dispute may be said to date from the treaty which Governor I. I. Stevens, of Washington Territory, made with the Nez Perces and other tribes in June, 1857. At that time Gov. Stevens refused to recognize the hereditary Chief of the Nez Perces, and practically elevated Lawyer, a cunning and tractable Indian, to the Chiefship. The Nez Perces were then and they are yet the most numerous of any of the tribes of that whole region. They are generally peaceful, and live quietly on the fine and extensive Reservation on the Snake and Clearwater rivers, near the town of Lewiston. They cultivate large farms, have innumerable head of horses, and are generally a well-to-do people. But some of their tribe are "wild" Indians, and instead of believing with the majority of their brethren in the policy of a somewhat civilized life, they prefer to follow after the traditions and habits of their savage ancestors. Among the Chiefs who very reluctantly signed the treaty of 1857 was Joseph—the father of the Chief of the same name who now heads the outbreak. Old Joseph was not a Nez Perce. He was a Cayuse Chief. Yet he claimed the Wallowa Valley, and was recognized as a leader of his people. Some of the Nez Perces who were dissatisfied with the treaty, but more with the conduct of Gov. Stevens in elevating Lawyer to the Chiefship, measurably sided with Joseph, and the disaffected of still other tribes joined them, so as to swell the number to somewhat formidable proportions. Before that time a very cunning Indian had begun to evolve a new faith or superstition among the Indians. He was known as Smohalla, or "the dreamer." He had been taught by missionaries, and he turned what he had learned to account in a way his teachers never intended or expected. Of all the Bible lessons the one he most and particularly set store by was that which is contained in Judges, vi and vii, as to Gideon and his band, reduced from many thousands to only three hundred, overcoming the Midianites. Smohalla preached to his tribe the doctrine he derived from the text, and inspired them to believe that, although the whites, or Midianites, were powerful in numbers, yet could the Lord's own people, Gideon's band of three hundred—the Indians themselves—triumph over them and drive them from the land. During the Indian war of 1858, when the late General Wright severely whipped the Indians of that upper country, and obliged them finally to sue for peace, he put a stop to Smohalla's preachings and influence by keeping him a close prisoner. But after General (or Colonel, as he was then), Wright made peace, he allowed the mischievous "dreamer" his liberty, on condition he should cease his efforts to propagate his peculiar incendiary doctrine among the Indians, and until General Wright was called away from there, during our own civil war, Smohalla found it advisable to refrain from openly seeking converts. Since that time, however, he has been very active as a prophet and missionary to spread his faith, and his success has grown into alarming magnitude. It is not only among his own tribe that he has found converts. He has gone every season to the buffalo country and other hunting grounds to the East and South, and everywhere he has found followers, for it is a most inspiring idea, or hope, to the average savage that he shall yet see the day when he can glut his never-dying revenge upon the white man, exterminate the race, and again redeem to himself and his people the lands from which the whites have driven them.

To thoroughly indoctrinate his believers, Smohalla impresses upon them certain cardinal duties. They must be "wild Indians;" they must not practice any of the arts of civilization, but live as their fathers lived before the coming of the whites. They must not tolerate the approach of the white man, hold any intercourse with him, accept any favor from him, enter his house, or deal with him except for fire-arms, powder and lead. They must not go upon any reservation, enter any church building or school-house, allow any clergyman or teacher to preach or instruct them, listen to anything spoken or read from a book, or hold converse of any kind with any of their own people who persist in friendship with or copying after the civilization of the whites. In short, they must resolutely resist and abstain from every effort or act calculated to bring them into the association or under the influence of the whites in the slightest particular; but they must never neglect to seize an opportunity to advantage themselves at the expense of the hated race.

It is to this exclusively savage doctrine Young Joseph has committed himself. His father, the old Chief, is dead. Young Joseph is his successor. He is now in the full vigor of manhood—about forty years of age, and is a model of a warrior Chief—tall, well-formed, of bold bearing, dignified demeanor, and every inch a leader. He has a haughty scorn of white men, and despises any of his own race who will consent to be at peace with and submit to them. With him are allied the renegades, or "wild Indians," of the various other tribes of that broad region, and no doubt there are nearly 1,000 of them in all. That they are generally well armed and equipped for prolonged hostilities is very probable. They have been for years preparing for war, and the country is entirely favorable to their hostile purpose. Before troops can reach them they can secure large supplies of provisions from the stores of the whites they either massacre or drive away, and it will be almost impossible to hunt them in their many and quite impregnable hiding places in the mountains, along the rivers and tributaries, among the rocks and cañons. They have a range of hundreds of miles in extent, and they are familiar with the whole country. It is their chosen season of year for war, and their ponies are in good condition for a prolonged campaign. For these reasons we fear they will not soon be quelled or properly chastised. Nor do we think that General Howard is the man for the service. If the savages were Southern white men and Southern white women no doubt he would pursue them with fire and sword to the last extremity without rest or mercy; but as they are not, and are merely savages, he will probably deal with them as only a "Christian soldier" would—as the "Christian" Delano, Grant's scoundrelly Secretary of the Interior, dealt at last with the murderous Modocs. Although, there was this to say in behalf of the Modocs, as there is similarly to say now of Joseph and his hostile allies—the fault at bottom then rested, and it now rests, with the Government, on account of its bad faith, its duplicity, and its violation of treaty pledges, solemnly given and wantonly, causelessly broken. It is the evil fruit of the wretched and viciously managed "Peace policy," which is little more or better than the means or scheme to give sinecures to partisan placemen, rich spoils to sectarian denominations, and to enrich the Indian "ring." If the system were abolished and the Indian Bureau turned over to the Army Department, there would be no more Indian wars and an immense savings to the public in precious lives, as well as in dollars.

Concerning Children.

It is related of an ancient Roman matron that when called upon to exhibit her jewels, she pointed to her children and said: "These are my jewels." In those days a mother took pride in her offspring, and the saying of the first Napoleon was not so lightly esteemed as now. He, when asked who was the greatest woman, said it was she who brought forth the most children. Nowadays the feeling is becoming too common that children, instead of being the comfort of a well-regulated household and promoters of the happiness of married life, are great annoyances and detrimental to its enjoyment. This is undoubtedly a cause of some cases of infanticide, and a prolific source of another crime, which, if not fully equal to it in enormity, is certainly not much less in degree, whether viewed in a moral or legal aspect. Ante-natal murder is one of the most prevalent and unnatural crimes of the age—and this, too, not with people who are obliged to struggle with stern necessity for the means of a livelihood, but among a class which claim a high standard of respectability and move in the uppermost social circles.

It is true that many who have recourse to this perilous procedure do it for the purpose of concealing evidence of moral mishap or impropriety, but this class is small in comparison with those who legally conjoined do so merely to escape the burden of a large family. While no respectable physician can be induced to aid in this nefarious work, there are, unfortunately, others who will, and from the standing of the parties who generally require their services the chances of detection are few, while the remuneration is large. In addition to this class of practitioners, some newspapers are full of the advertisements of other detestable wretches who proffer their services for this base purpose, and many apothecaries do not hesitate to furnish all who wish to purchase them with drugs and appliances for the accomplishment of this end. It sometimes happens that poor people avail themselves of such means under the impression that they will not be able to care for their children, unwilling to depend on the protecting hand of Providence. All who do thus evince a lack of natural affection and a low estimate of the sanctity of human life.

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