

The Daily Review.

Towanda, Pa., Wednesday, Jan., 21, 1880.

EDITORS:
S. W. ALVORD. NOBLE N. ALVORD.

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The true history of the cause which led to the Meeker massacre by the White River Utes was related publicly for the first time before the House Committee on Indian Affairs. Gen. Adams, who has returned to Washington with the Ute chiefs, after unsuccessfully attempting to secure the delivery of the Indians engaged in the massacre, was the witness: His narrative showed conclusively that the individual solely responsible for the outbreak was Agent Meeker. Had it not been for his unjustifiable treatment of the tribe, murder, subsequent outrages, and killing of troops would not have followed. According to Gen. Adams, Mr. Meeker was very overbearing in his treatment of the Indians. They were originally encamped near the Agency buildings. Their lodges were brick, and their rude appliances for cooking were established. Mr. Meeker, for reasons of his own, ordered the encampment moved twelve miles away. The Indians did not like the change, but they obeyed the agent's orders and moved. Scarcely had they become finally settled in their new camp before Meeker again ordered them to break camp and move to another place. The excuse given by Meeker for ordering the second removal was that he wanted to plough where the camp was pitched.

The Indians objected to a second removal, and they sent Chief Johnson to parley with Meeker on the subject. Johnson said his people thought they were badly treated, and they did not want to move a second time. Neither did they want their land ploughed. Meeker replied that he did not want to discuss the question; he had ordered the Indians to move and move they must. Johnson said he would not move; Meeker threatened to put handcuffs on all the Indians and send for the troops to enforce his orders. His remarks angered Johnson, who slapped the agent's face and left him.

Johnson's report to the tribe did not tend to create good feeling among the Indians, and Meeker fulfilled his threat to summon the troops. The Indians believing from expressions used by the agent that the soldiers were coming to kill them for their refusal to obey his orders, determined not to be shot. They murdered the men around the agency, and started out to prevent the entry of the troops on their land. Then followed the fight in which Thornburgh was killed.

Gen. Adams is of opinion that the Utes engaged in the massacre will not voluntarily surrender themselves to be tried for the offense.

Last Tuesday President Hinsdale, of Hiram College, said to the students assembled in College; "To-day a man will be elected to the United States Senate in Columbus, who, when a boy, was once the bell-ringer in this school and afterwards its president. Feeling this, we ought, in some way, to recognize this step in his history." So on the following day Mr. Hinsdale gave a very interesting address on Garfield's career, in which among other things, he said the popularly accepted account of the Senator's early history is largely fabulous. His father's circumstances were those of his neighbors. "Measured by our standard" said Mr. Hinsdale, "they were all poor; they lived on small farms for which they had gone in debt, hoping to clear and pay for them by their toil. Garfield dying, left his wife and four young children in the condition that any of his neighbors would have done—poor. The family life before had been close and hard enough; now it became closer and harder. Grandma Garfield, as some of us familiarly call her,

was a woman of unusual energy, faith and courage. She said the children should not be separated, but kept together; and that the home should be maintained, as when its head was living. The battle was a hard one, and she won it."

The only town in Kemper county, Miss., which supports a newspaper is Scooba, and according to *The Herald*, which is the name of the sheet printed there, the place has neither a preacher nor a school-house. It no doubt possesses an efficient Democratic rifle club.

General Fisk before the Committee on Indian Affairs yesterday, charged the Indian Bureau with mismanagement and inattention to wants, claims and rightful dues of the Utes; Commissioner Hayt defended himself against the accusations.

United State Supreme Court has decided that only invalid pensioners, who have not contributed to funds of National Soldiers' Home are bound to purchase its benefits by surrendering to it their pensions.

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