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*The Massacre of the Piegans.*

THE MASSACRE OF THE PIEGANS.\*

BY SHENANDOAH, AUTHOR OF "SHERIDAN'S LAST RIDE," AND "MOKE-TA-VA-TA, THE MARTYRED CHIEFTAIN."

STERN winter flashed its frozen bars  
 Across the fiery belt of MARS ;  
 The mountain brow was crowned with light,  
 The valley robed in spotless white ;  
 Calm justice, bending from the sky,  
 Looked o'er the battlements on high,  
 Her shining balance downward hung,  
 All solemnly and still it swung  
 To weigh the deeds of shame and worth,  
 At that hour passing on the earth ;  
     On one side was a nation's ban,  
     The other held the poor Piegan.

Great was the power, wealth, and pride  
 Piled mountain high upon one side,  
 The prowess and the strength of years,  
 The triumphs over doubts and fears ;  
 The conquests, sometimes gained o'er wrong,  
 With Freedom's name to make them strong ;  
 The other side held want, distress,  
 The children of the wilderness,  
 Feeble and faint, with garments few,  
 The wintry winds could pierce them through ;  
     A nation's army—SHERIDAN,  
     Against the outlawed, poor Piegan.

On one side glittering steel and fire,  
 To do the work of death so dire ;  
 Steeds prancing, banners waving high,  
 Strong men to conquest drawing nigh,  
 Such victory as might could gain,  
 With none their weapons to restrain ;  
 The other but a few souls brave,  
 Who fought their helpless ones to save,  
 Women and babes, shrieking awoke  
 To perish 'mid the battle smoke,

\* As rendered at the close of a lecture upon the subject of "MOKE-TA-VA-TA ; or, The Nation and its Wards," in Masonic Temple, Washington, D. C., March 30th, by CORA L. V. TAPPAN.

Murdered, or turned out there to die  
Beneath the stern, gray, wintry sky ;  
    Here, a great Christian warrior's plan,  
    There, Pity, and the poor Piegan.

Far o'er the seas, Columbia's hands  
Uplift the fallen of all lands ;  
To Ireland's stricken sons, her voice  
Speaks, bidding them awake, rejoice ;  
From England's pride and wealth of state,  
She bids the paupered millions wait ;  
Wakes from her dismal, dreary trance  
The sleeping liberty of France ;  
Salutes across the golden sea,  
Brave Garibaldi's Italy ;  
    Pleads everywhere for rights of man,  
    Why not for her own poor Piegan ?

The summer fields of flowery Spain  
Give promise of bright Freedom's grain ;  
Far to the distant Orient  
A flash of fiery thought is sent,  
The dark Mongolian is stirred  
With every potent, piercing word ;  
To all the races 'neath the sun  
She welcome gives ; even the one  
So lately bound to shame and toil,  
Enslaved, enfranchised on her soil ;  
For whom her own fair sons were slain,  
To wash away foul slavery's stain ;  
    Oh ! in this splendid, perfect plan,  
    There is a place for the poor Piegan.

Justice still bends above the earth,  
To mark the deeds of shame or worth ;  
Each in the balance shall be tried ;  
Oh ! not upon the nation's side  
Of shame, let us our tribute lay,  
But on the side of truth, alway ;  
Remember, "Whatsoe'er is done  
Unto the feeblest little one,"  
The loving Master once hath said,  
"That do ye unto me instead ;"  
    I look, behold the Son of Man  
    Bears in his arms the poor Piegan.

## "FRIENDS" AMONG THE INDIANS.

FROM a report made by SAMUEL M. JANNEY, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, for the Northern Superintendency, in the State of Nebraska, to a convention of Friends held recently in Philadelphia, we extract the following :

At the Santee Agency, the survey of the allotments of land in severalty is well advanced, and the Indians are eager to occupy their farms as soon as houses can be built. A new steam saw-mill has been put in operation, a large number of saw-logs are in readiness, and lumber is being rapidly prepared for building purposes. The agent expects the Indians to do most of the work in erecting their own houses.

He has contracted for machinery to build a flouring-mill on Bazille Creek—which affords a sufficiency of water-power. He has seeded about a hundred acres with spring wheat, and intends to put in a corn crop on the agency farm. The schools are flourishing, and the Indians manifest a disposition to help themselves by honest labor. The condition of the tribe is very encouraging.

At the Winnebago Agency, about three hundred acres of prairie land were broken by Indian labor last summer, to prepare for a crop this year. The agent writes : "We are getting along very nicely with our work, having finished sowing about four hundred acres of wheat several days ago ; it is now coming up and looking well. We are at this time plowing for corn, and preparing to build fence."

The allotment of land in severalty is well advanced toward completion.

The schools, according to the last information I received, were in a satisfactory condition.

From the Omaha Agency, the agent writes : "Industry and thrift are now taking the place of idleness and improvidence. The men work well, and even the old chiefs now shoulder their axes and go into the timber to work with the rest."

The timber they have been cutting is for their own use, to be sawed into lumber for the building of their houses.

The past winter was the first in which they have had the care of their own cattle. Though steadily worked, these are now in good condition, and not one has died, so far as the agent has learned. Only one day-school for children has yet been established, though many that can not be accommodated express a desire to go to school.

Funds are much needed for the support of more schools.

At the Pawnee Agency, a disposition has been manifested recently by many of the men to engage in agricultural labor, which has hitherto been performed almost exclusively by the squaws. The sum of \$4000 deducted from their annuity last fall, by direction of the chiefs, has, in accordance with their wishes, been applied this spring to the purchase of wagons, harness, and plows.

They have a very large number of ponies which were of little use except they went on the hunt ; some of these have been broken to work, and are

now used for agricultural purposes. A considerable area of land has been prepared for a wheat crop, and is probably sown by this time. These Indians generally raise a large supply of corn.

The Manual Labor School is flourishing, and now numbers seventy-five Indian boys and girls, who are boarded and clothed, and taught the most useful branches of an English education. The boys are taught to work on the farm, and the girls instructed in household work. The Agency farm is cultivated by the labor of the boys and young men who have been educated in the school.

The agent of the Otoes and Missouri Indians writes: "The condition of the tribe is very promising, and I think its prospects are gradually growing better. A day-school, under the care of an experienced teacher, is progressing satisfactorily, but its existence does not do away with the necessity of an industrial school."

There has been much sickness in the tribe, and about thirty children have died, mostly from measles.

The practice of bleeding for the cure of most diseases is very common with the Indians, and often very injurious.

The fund sent by friends for the supply of suitable food for the sick, has been of great service, and in some instances medical aid has been supplied from this same source.

All the children of the tribe have been clothed by the Society of Friends, and now present a very creditable appearance. They attend school with cheerfulness.

From the Great Nemaha Agency I returned yesterday. There has recently been much sickness among the Indians, chiefly from measles; but a skillful physician, living within six miles of the reservation, has attended them, and the deaths have been few.

The Iowa tribe is evidently much improved since I first saw it, and many of the men who were formerly intemperate and idle, have reformed, and are now sober and orderly in their habits. The school taught by MARY B. LIGHTFOOT is well attended, and the progress of her pupils is encouraging.