

The Indian Superintendency.

As our readers are aware, the office of Superintendent of Indian Affairs has been conferred upon B. F. Kendall, Esq. Of the reasons actuating the President in making such an appointment we are entirely ignorant, but as a Republican, we assert that Mr. Kendall is entirely destitute of any claim, and that he individually participated in a Democratic precinct meeting in this place in June, 1860, the last one held before his departure to Washington City to seek office. In this Territory, up to the time of his leaving, he avowed that he "was a Democrat, and expected to die a Democrat." He never dared to avow sympathy with Republicanism until after the Presidential election, and he has yet to cast his *first* vote in favor of their candidates, or the principles of that party. Here, in his own town, by his oppressive manner, and his peculiar course, he cannot get a corporal's guard to support him for the humblest office. "Verily a prophet hath no honor in his own country"!

We blame not the Administration for being deceived, for its time must necessarily be absorbed in the portentous affairs of a national trouble. In the devotion to these greater subjects, we find the solution of such a course as this *anomalous appointment*. It is really

a matter of pain thus to differ with the Administration concerning an appointment to office, and in this enlightened community we claim no less devotion and allegiance to it. Such an appointment, however odious, is no ground for disloyalty to the Administration, no reason for disaffection, yet we cannot blame anyone for feeling humiliated, chagrined and mortified, who has toiled faithfully, disinterestedly and devotedly, ever since the party had an existence, with far more claims for preferment—not probably graduates of a college, or even skillful lawyers, and yet blessed with more sound judgment than this political adventurer, who deserted his standard in defeat and joined the Republican party after its triumph, and as the price of his apostacy receives this office as his reward.

But other than party reasons actuate our objections to this appointment. We do not believe Mr. Kendall the proper man for the place. True he has scholarship, did graduate at Bowdoin, as one of his biographers in Washington City urged so successfully to prove his competency, but everyone hereabouts knows that *talented* as he is, he has yet to learn the first principles of every day life. And now, in this juncture of our Territorial affairs, when our large bands of Indians are seriously disaffect-

ed at delays in paying their annuities, the hope for and prompt payment of which is nowise increased by our weighty national troubles, the Nez Perces on the eve of a rupture in consequence of the flocking in to their country of so many miners, with good reason to fear that secessionists are among them, at work to incite hostilities and multiply the difficulties of the Government that traitors in the States may the better succeed in their diabolical efforts, we need at this time a man our people have confidence in, or who, at least, is worthy of their confidence—a man who possesses judgment, firmness and courage, and not one of these qualities have ever been attributed to Mr. Kendall by his exceedingly few admirers.

Our people ask for a reliable man at the head of this department; they care not for brilliancy of talent, expertness as an attorney, bombastic oratory, nor college acquirements. We know Mr. Kendall's previous history—the President, of course, was unacquainted with

it. He never told the President that he was a life-long Democrat until that party was a failure, nor why he especially coveted this particular place. He did not tell the President that he could make himself rich in four years out of this office, or he never would have been appointed. He did obtain the office by misrepresenting his party character. There are many who have known Mr. Kendall's estimate of the amount to be realized out of the Indian Superintendency. A man who unhesitatingly changes his party to obtain office and *enrich himself* is not to be trusted, and we defy Mr. Kendall to show that he is not in this category.

As citizens, interested in our Territorial welfare, we protest against this appointment, and urge our Delegate to save us from the difficulties likely to ensue from it. In the name of the Republican party of the Territory, we protest against conferring the best office in the Territory upon the latest and most venal acquisition to that party.

We ask Mr. Kendall if he can deny that he has made the assertion time and again that he could go to Congress if he secured this office, by carrying the convention for a nomination and in spending a thousand dollars for whiskey? He insulted the party and our whole people when he accused them of such venality, and he will learn his mistake. We now say to him in all firmness that any and every attempt at corruption in his administration of the Superintendency will be exposed.

We heartily endorse the Administration in its general policy, and regret that we must differ with it in regard to an appointment; but when we see *Democratic* leaders exulting over this appointment, and Republicans and the people everywhere protesting against it, we deem it our duty to advise the Administration of the blow it has innocently inflicted upon the people of this Territory, who, in the late election, so gloriously manifested their desire to stand by and strengthen it in the maintenance of our national existence.
