

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 8, 1888.

PRICE 2 CENTS.

ALL REFUSED TO SIGN.

The Indians at Standing Rock Agency Decline to Accept the Proposed Treaty.

Chief Gall Makes a Strong Speech and the Listening Braves at Once Break Up the Conference.

All the Warriors Reported to Have Taken an Oath Not to Willingly Give Up the Reservation.

STANDING ROCK, Dakota, Aug. 7.—At last the persistent and hopeful commissioners have realized that unanimous defeat in the matter of opening the Sioux reservation stares them in the face. The uncalculated insults which Chairman Pratt has given to the haughty chiefs of the tribes intensified the opposition of the Indians and instead of making a "break in the park and file" of the braves solidified the opposition and cemented the friendship of the factions. The matter was virtually settled today when John Grass arose in conference and informed the commissioners that the Indians would sign neither paper and that they would now return to their farms regardless of what the commissioners might say. Grass made a pointed speech, which met with the applause of the Indians, and as soon as he closed the circle was broken and the Indians started for home. All efforts of Chairman Pratt to control the Indians were futile, but Agent McLaughlin succeeded in restoring quiet and having the conference adjourn with a semblance of order.

It was a most humiliating scene. The representatives of the government of the United States sent to confer with the Indians were left standing helpless and hopeless, while the Indians who rendered the decision not to sign left with contempt depicted upon their countenances. Two of the commissioners, Judge Wright of Tennessee and Rev. Mr. Cleveland of Dakota, have been inclined to a fair and decent policy which, if adopted, might have secured the consent of the Indians. For days it has been apparent that the Indians were growing more bitter in their opposition to the treaty, but not until today did Mr. Pratt realize the fact.

The conference was virtually closed last night in the private council of the Indians, when they decided that today they would leave the agency. The reports which have been brought by Indian carriers from the lower agencies have been discouraging as those sent from this point, and the opening of the reservation under the present act is now considered among the impossibilities. Red Cloud sent word that the Indians at Pine Ridge would not sign, and that if the Standing Rock Indians signed their action would have no effect upon his people. It is a fact, however, that many of the doubting Indians at some of the lower agencies have been awaiting the action of Gall, Mad Bear, John Grass, and Sitting Bull, and that the failure at this point virtually settles the matter. Sitting Bull's social call upon the commissioners gave Chairman Pratt renewed hope, but the cunning old Indian was simply giving him an exhibition of his diplomacy.

The great man of the tribe is Chief Gall, and today's action on the part of the Indians need no doubt as to his power and influence. In council whenever he spoke of the attempt of the commission to give him of the authority to speak for the Indians his followers would give vent to their indignation in the most startling manner, while every declaration that he would remain firm in his decision not to accept the treaty was greeted with tumultuous applause. Last night he said: "For many days we have awaited here to hear what these com-

missioners had to say. They have failed to obtain the signature of an Indian. The eleven million acres of land will not be opened for settlement, and the people of Dakota will be compelled to await some action on the part of congress to develop the resources of the vast area. It is a sore defeat for the people of the Black hills, who are praying for railroads. Under the act the Chicago and Northwestern and Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroads were to receive right of way through the reservation, and it is also a defeat for these companies, which are anxious to build to the Black hills. No new developments need be expected for a week. Commissioner Cleveland was absent from today's conference, having gone to the relief of the family of Rev. Mr. Hanford, who was killed by a mowing machine at the Pine Ridge agency. Hanford was the missionary at that agency, and his death left his wife and children among the Indians, with no white person within fifty miles.

It has just leaked out here that the Indians are all oath-bound not to sign the treaty, and the Indians who weaken and sign the bill will be killed by their brethren.

CHILDREN STARVED TO DEATH.

Thousands of English Babies Murdered for the Sake of Life Insurance.

LONDON, Aug. 7.—"One thousand infants are murdered every year in England for the sake of life insurance." This is the startling statement that appears in a preliminary report of the select committee of the house of lords that is now investigating the condition of the working classes. There are numerous companies in the principal towns which insure the lives of children from a month old and upward, and the evidence adduced before the committee under oath proves beyond peradventure that the little innocents are starved to death by wholesale by inhuman parents for the sake of a few pounds of insurance money. It is understood that the committee will in its final report say that the insurance of children is a premium on murder, and recommend that any person underfeeding an insured child so as to cause its death shall be punished with life imprisonment.

MAXWELL'S FATE.

Why His Counsel Are Hopeful of a Respite Being Granted.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 7.—It is impossible to say what the governor will do tomorrow when presented with the new evidence against the incompetency of Coulahan and Sears as jurors, but the impression here is that he will treat it as he has every other ground presented for a respite or commutation. The supreme court had evidence before it that Coulahan was very much prejudiced against Maxwell before the trial, but the evidence was in the form of a single affidavit made by the keeper of the morgue, and the court did not think that sufficient to establish Coulahan's incompetency. The supreme court in denying a new trial for Maxwell said that if the affidavits of two responsible men could be had showing that Juror Coulahan was prejudiced prior to the trial it would be good ground for reversal, and Maxwell's attorneys now think they have a good case. The gentlemen who now come forward to strengthen the morgue-keeper's statement say that their great aversion to being connected with the case in any way kept them from fitting out the secret before, and that they would not do it now except from a sense of duty. They say that Coulahan told them after he had been subpoenaed to serve in the case that he was glad of it, as he wanted to help send Maxwell to the gallows that he ought, in fact, to be hanged without judge or jury. The names of the men have not been made public as yet. The evidence against the competency of Sears as a juror is of the same character, though not quite so bad. It was presented to the court, but not heard, as it was presented after the time allowed. The attorneys claim that as neither this nor the new affidavit against Coulahan has been passed upon by the court the governor will be in duty bound to investigate them, and must grant a respite to do it.

The gentlemen upon whose affidavits Maxwell hopes to get a respite tomorrow are said to be J. B. Tevis, a retired merchant living on Washington avenue, and Adam Diefenbach, a coal dealer. One is present out of the city and the other

IS HE WILLIE DICKINSON?

Discovery of a Boy Who May Be the One Who Was Kidnaped.

WAUSAU, Wis., Aug. 7.—Dr. Kate Bushnell of the Social Purity branch of the Woman's Christian Temperance union some time ago visited the notorious resorts near the city on her mission among fallen women. At one place, kept by one Johnson, she noticed a young boy stopping there. Growing suspicious, she made inquiries of a family residing in the neighborhood, who told her the boy came from Canada. Later Dr. Bushnell met Capt. Dickinson's family of Commonwealth on her train and told them of her suspicions. The clew to Willie Dickinson was lost in Canada, and this caused a suspicion that this was the missing boy. Officers visited the place, and now have the boy in custody. He says he has a sister named Christine. Willie Dickinson has a sister of the same name. The boy says his people live in Scotland. Johnson, the keeper of the den, says he brought him from Canada seven years ago. It was discovered that Willie was abducted by people in the ill-fame business, and this boy being found in the possession of a man of the same stripe serves to confirm the suspicion that he is the lost Willie Dickinson. Capt. Dickinson is expected here Saturday, when Johnson's trial takes place. There is much excitement over a supposed implication of officers in league with Johnson and his gang.

The story of the abduction of Willie Dickinson is almost as familiar to the public as the case of Charlie Ross. On the afternoon of Nov. 1, 1883, the little fellow was returning home from school, and when at a lonely point on the road was seized by two men, it was maintained, and carried away. Capt. Dickinson spent thousands of dollars and Mrs. Dickinson traveled over a greater part of the eastern states in efforts to recover the stolen child. A reward of \$5,000 was offered for his return, but it resulted in naught. Detectives were employed, but they were not more successful than were Capt. and Mrs. Dickinson. Some time ago a number of letters were found in Milwaukee that purported to gear on the case, but it is not known that they were genuine, later developments tending to indicate they were forgeries.

During his search for his lost boy the captain has had some strange experiences, and if they were all well written up they would make an entertaining book. The strangest of all his adventures occurred in 1884, the year after the boy disappeared. He got track of a man and boy—the latter answering his boy's description—somewhere in Pennsylvania. He went there to see them but found they had quietly gone elsewhere, but where nobody could tell. People who had seen them described the boy very closely, and Mr. Dickinson was more than ever satisfied he was his lost son. The man who had him in charge had admitted that he was not his child, and there was something in his conduct that led people to believe he had stolen him, but they did not interfere or press for too much information. The boy did not appear to dislike his position, although he was evidently leading a sort of vagabondish life and was often not too well fed. When man and boy disappeared nobody took interest enough in them to ask where or why they had gone, and the captain was there at a loss what to do next. By some means, however, he got a hint that the pair had gone across the line to West Virginia, and thither he followed them. After a long search he found in a lonely part of the mountains people who had evidently seen the same identical pair. Then he found a house at which they had stopped for a time, and better than all, as he believed, he found a pair of well-worn pants which the boy had discarded for a newer pair at this point in his travels. These pants the father positively identified as those worn by his lost boy on the day of his disappearance. They were of the same stuff, and most convincing of all, they had identically similar patches, according to the description furnished by his mother. But

CITY SLAVE GIRLS.

"Nell Nelson" Investigates the Boston Store and Is Shocked at What She Finds.

A Basement That on a Hot Day Is So Stifling It Reminds One of the "Black Hole of Calcutta."

Hundreds of Ill-Fed, Wan-Faced Children Working from 7:45 Until 6:30.

And Receiving in Exchange for the Terrible Drudgery and Hard Labor a Miserly \$2 or \$3 a Week.

The Managers Make Haste to Explain, but Their Explanation Scarcely Better the Matter.

For dismal surroundings, economy of comforts, and heartless treatment, to the Boston store belongs the palm.

I did not work in that establishment although I tried very hard to do so. I was in the store at 8 o'clock on Friday morning as arranged with Mr. Hillman, who had partially promised to hire me. "One of the girls in the hosiery department" he had said "is sick, and if she doesn't come back Friday morning I will try you."

I could not find the gentleman, although I hunted the main floor and the floors above and below. My plan of fluctuation was to take the elevator up one story and walk down, then ride up two and walk down the third flight, in that way I took in the entire store and a great part of the employees. I began at the bottom and spent a full hour in the basement, where I saw so much and suffered so much that the upper floors had no surprises for me. In the first place the atmosphere was almost unendurable.

Hot! It must have been 100 degrees above! Out in the open air not a breeze was stirring and the heat was sizzling. Down where I was I could not see a single opening to admit the air, fiery as it was, excepting the open door at the extreme southeast corner of the floor, leading up a short flight of steps to the sidewalk. About this doorway so many goods were piled and draped and hung that the passage of air was obstructed. There must have been forty, and there may be eighty, clerks, cash boys, and girls on this floor and five times that number of customers surged in and out under the glaring rays of gas-jets and electric burners. Babies squirmed and cried under the suffocating heat; children screamed and fretted; men and women fanned and wiped their faces, but the little cash-girls and the languid clerks endured their prison uncomplaining. Add to the heat from gas-jets, electric lights, and machinery, the exhalations from so many people, the moldy smell from damaged goods, the dampness of the freshly mopped floor, the fumes from a stray disinfectant, and the mildew and earthy odor that lurked in dark corners, and you have some idea of the quarters in which customers are invited to look for bargains and where helpless, honest, free-born American men and women boys and girls are forced to work for clothes