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[ARTICLE]

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 22.

The arrival of Mr. BEALE, Superintendent of Indian
affairs, and the announcement of the result of his
official interview with a number of the tribes of
South, attracts attention to the present and prob-
able future condition of the Indians of the State,
the policy by which they are to be governed. It
becomes a question whether these unfortunate
people shall be exterminated as soon as possible, or
remain in their present degraded, defenceless and
helpless condition, or become the subject of judicious
and just care on the part of the General Government,
and be elevated in the scale of humanity to the posi-
tion of a civilized and self-dependent people. The
first proposition is too revolting to all sense of justice
and common humanity to be entertained by a virtu-
ous and Christian public; the second is too nearly al-
ike to the first to be decided upon as a system of
policy. To leave the Indians as they are, is to make
them a thieving, predatory, thriftless set of semi-bar-
barians, inimical to the well being of the State, and
destructive to their own existence. The third alter-
native is demanded by a consideration of national
justice to the Indians, and a regard for the interests of
the State. This is the alternative looked to by the
Federal officers in charge of the Indian department in
California. The plan by which this policy is to be
carried out will, we think, meet the approbation not
only of the Government but of the people of the State.
It is simple, economical, and calculated to impart the

greatest moral, intellectual and physical benefits to
the Indians that they are capable of receiving. Mr.
BEALE, in his report to Congress, suggested, and is
now preparing to put into operation this plan; which
is to make reservations of land (useless to the white

to make reservations of land, (useless to the white man, but adapted to the wants of the Indian,) of sufficient number and extent to accommodate the tribes to be located; to furnish them with sufficient provisions to maintain them until their own labor supplies their wants; to give them farming utensils, stock, seeds, plants, &c.; to induct them, by the agency of proper superintendents, into the rudiments of agricultural science; to appropriate the surplus products of their labor to their own education and social improvement; to establish schools, churches, and other elevating institutions among them. These are the outlines of the general plan. The Superintendent commences his operations with the Indians

in the southern part of the Tulare plains; the reservation to be located in the vicinity of Tejon. The tribes in that region, with some of whom Mr. BEALE recently held an official "talk," have a natural taste for agricultural pursuits, which they practice now to some extent in their primitive manner, when they are not molested; and they are extremely anxious to avail themselves of the proposed system of colonization.

The advantages of this plan are obvious and great; indeed, it is impossible to devise any other that would so effectually protect the whites from the predatory incursions of the Indians, or shield the Indians against the injustice and oppression of the whites. While the Indians exist they must have food. If they can get it without risking the penalties of theft, they will do so; if not, they, like all other men, will risk their lives, and violate all the obligations that can be assumed by the most civilized races, to satisfy the wants of nature. To talk about preventing them from doing so, by threats, or the most condign punishment, is simply absurd. So long as they are forced to steal in order to live, so long will there be hostility between them and the whites. The experiment of feeding them at the expense of the Government has been found by actual experience to be impossible, without incurring an expense so entirely beyond reason that the experiment will never be repeated. Aside from the expense, the plan is actually impracticable. As before remarked, under these circumstances, the whole Indian race in Cali-

these circumstances, the whole Indian race in California must be exterminated by the unsparing ravages of hunger and civilized aggression, or they must be brought together, organized into a community, made to support themselves by their own labor, and be elevated above the degraded position they now occupy.

Five years after the first settlement is made and put into successful operation, the Indian affairs of California will cease to be an item of expense to the General or State Government; all hostilities will be over; the whites will be entirely free from annoyance by the Indians; the Indians will be transformed from a state of semi-barbarism, indolence, mental imbecility and moral debasement, to a condition of civilization, Christianity, industry, virtue, frugality, social and domestic happiness and public usefulness. A system that is so simple, so practicable, and leading to results so beneficial to both races, and so honorable to the American name, will surely command the support and co-operation of the people of California, as well as of the General Government.

"RELIEF."—The City Tax Collector informs us that we are mistaken in saying that his claim for extra compensation had been passed by the Council. The ordinance granting him relief was vetoed by the Mayor, and not passed afterwards. We are glad that the Council were so far governed by a sense of duty and propriety. But the fact that the claim of the Tax Collector was finally disallowed, only makes the Council more culpable in allowing other claims equally unjust and unreasonable. The good people of San Francisco, out of whose pockets all this extra compensation comes, are getting sick of it; and the plea that, because Tom got it, Dick is entitled to it too, will not satisfy a tax-ridden people any longer. There has been a great deal of talk about "reform," and all that, and it is now time to have a little of the reality. If the new Council does not, we hope the new Mayor will, look after these little private jobs, yclept "relief," and "extra compensation for clerk hire."

SUDDEN DEPARTURE.—The Rev. Father Flovius Fontaine, late priest at the Mission Dolores, has left his position within a few days, and it is supposed went to the Isthmus in one of the last steamers. It was reported that he took with him about \$30,000 of Church funds, but we are requested to say that the report is premature. The exact position of affairs is not yet known. The

The exact position of affairs is not yet known. The Padre was extensively engaged in building and in making improvements and may have become disgusted with his ill success in business matters. In a few days more will be known about the matter.

CATTLE DISEASE.—A gentleman from Carson Valley informs us that an epidemic of some kind is spreading among the cattle in that region, and that many of them have died from its effects. The throats of the animals swell under the influence of the disease, very soon after which they die. It is thought that the disease may be caused by some poisonous herb which the cattle eat.

LATE PUBLICATIONS.—We are pleased to acknowledge the receipt from Messrs. Leount & Strong of late publications, which we hope soon to be permitted to notice in such detail as their interest appears to deserve.