

We presume most of our Whig friends recollect that Dr. Wm. M. Gwinn was one of the Central Democratic Committee at Washington City, and franked thousands of documents to different points of the Union, to assist in defeating the Whig ticket in 1852. This was all right in a party sense, but he certainly did not, by his industry in that campaign, lay us as a party under any particular obligations.

In 1852, it was proclaimed throughout this State, that the Indian Commissioners were ruining portions of the country, outraging public sentiment and individual rights by the system of reservations they had adopted. It was then charged that the Commissioners had taken some of the very best farming lands in the State for Indian reservations—that they had driven the settlers off their land, and that the system was an abominable one.

The plan of the *Whig* Commissioners for treating with and settling the Indians upon reservations was condemned in Congress, as an outrage upon the rights of the people of California; Mr. Senator Gwin denounced the treaties made with the Indians as fraudulent from beginning to end; the system of reservations, a vicious and unjust one—and succeeded in getting them rejected, without so much as hardly to be opened in the Senate.

“Circumstances alter cases,” and strange to say, so far as we are advised, this same system of reservations was adopted by the new Indian Superintendent—Mr. Beale—and is being now carried out by the present Superintendent—Colonel Henley—even to the occupation of the very reservations selected by Dr. Wozencraft in 1851-'2.

When the system was recommended by Whig Superintendents it was horribly bad and injurious to the people of California; but now, it is just the thing, because *our friends* have the offices and the disbursement of the money. We believe

some half million of dollars have been appropriated since the appointment of Mr. Beale, for Indian purposes in California. At some future time we will endeavor to obtain the exact amount. Now, one of two things is certain, either Dr. Gwin was insincere in his opposition to the Indian Reservation system in 1852, or he and his friends are imposing an unjust and oppressive system upon the people of the State at the present time. If the Indian system was so horribly bad, so revolting to such dear lovers of the people as Dr. Gwin in 1852, its features must, by this time, have become hideous.

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