The New Northwest.

THURSDAY.....OCTOBER 24, 1878.

MAKE CHILDHOOD SWEET.

Wait not till the little hands are at rest
Ere you fill them full of flowers;
Wait not for the crowning tuberose
To make sweet the last sad hours;
But while in the busy household band
Your darlings still need your guiding hand,
Oh! fill their lives with sweetness!

Wait not till the little hearts are still,
For the loving look and phrase;
But while you gently chide a fault,
The good deed kindly praise;
The word you would speak beside the bier
Falls sweeter far on the living ear;
Oh! fill young lives with sweetness!

Ah! what are kisses on clay-cold lips
To the rosy mouth we press,
When our wee one flies to her mother's arms
For love's tenderest caress?
Let never a worldly bauble keep
Your heart from the joy each day should reap,
Cheering young lives with sweetness!

Give thanks each morn for the sturdy boys,
Give thanks for the fairy girls;
With a dower of wealth like this at home,
Would you rifle the world for pearls?
Wait not for death to gem one's crown,
But daily shower life's blessings down,
And fill young hearts with sweetness.

Remember the homes where the light has fled
Where the rose has faded away;
And the love that glows in youthful hearts,
Oh, cherish it while you may!
And make your home a garden of flowers,
Where joy shall bloom through childhood's hours,
And fill young lives with sweetness.

THE INDIAN WAR OF 1855-6.

On the morning of the 5th, two men came riding into camp and stated that Major Layton, in command of about 150 men, had been attacked by a large body of Indians on the John Day's on the 24, and driven into a bend of the river, where he was hemmed in, and that, when they stole through the Indian lines on the night of the 33, his ammunition was nearly exhausted, and that, unless he was succored at once, he must fall a certain prey to his assailants.

The dilemna in which our good captain was now placed might have puzzled a stronger mind, for, as before stated, he had an important trust in his hands, which would be greatly endangered by dividing the small force on which its safety depended. But his humanity would not allow an appeal for aid from a beleaguered detachment to be urged in vain, hence he assumed the responsibility of leaving the wagon-train with an escort wholly inadequate to its defense, and going with 150 men to the aid of Layton.

We left the wagons about noon and reached a tributary of Willow Creek about sunset. Here we came upon an Indian woman seated by the trail, tossing an infant in her arms and murmuring a dismal sort of chant. Our Indian guides tried to engage her in conversation, but she was not inclined to be communicative, for even the young professor of Chinook Jabbered and chuckled in her apathetic ears in vain. But, instead of maltreating her in any way, we bestowed upon the forlorn creature a liberal gift of food, and left her as free as the wolves and foxes around her.

Late in the afternoon of the second day from the Umatilla we descended a long hill to the John Day's, where we found Layton and his command, the Indians having disappeared the day before, driving before them all his beef cattle and a number of his horses. Here we remained till the following morning, when, taking up their trail, we followed on up the river. Esterling an extensive valley of smooth prairie land, we descried at no great distance about a dozen Indians riding leisurely along, driving a number of pack-horses before them. The advance guard was ordered to charge, and, while using their horses to their utmost speed, came upon a level spot that was honey-combed by prairie-badgers, or some such animal, when every horse stumbled or fell, and threw his eager rider headlong to the ground. The savages, witnessing the ludicrous termination of this determined onset, cleft the very heavens with their exultant yells, struck the bulky packs from their horses, and were soon hidden from our view by intervening hills.

On examining the packs they had so hastily abandoned, we realized how completely we had been "sold." They consisted simply of worthless sacks distended by slender twigs. Camping on a small creek soon after, we were visited by a party of sixteen men who represented that they had been following the Indians for a number of days, hoping to recover a band of horses they alleged had been stolen from near The Dalles, but finding that the thieves were defended by five or six hundred warriors, had thought best to allow them to enjoy their booty. These men were all well mounted and armed to the teeth, and seemed well supplied, not only with food, but with that bane of humanity, whisky, not evincing any disposition to be niggardly with either. I was astonished that Major Layton seemed not to discredit their statement, for many of us were convinced at the time that they were illicit traders, fresh from supplying the hostiles with munitions of war. As for Captain Goff, he was so thoroughly honest and unsophisticated that it never entered his mind that anybody was not just what he professed, and these genial romancers left us in an hour or two with the best wishes of the Major and Captain attending them.

During the following night rain fell in torrents, and at the behest of morning, July as it was, the surrounding mountains presented themselves in mantles of purest white.

The low hills encircling the little valley we occupied shone in the variegated emerald of the fir, the pine and the larch; higher up the mountain sides, faint traces of purest white began to show with the darker green, while higher still, wreathed in *cumuli*, the chilly summits looked down upon us robed in the ermine of winter. And as

"Fair morn with rosy hand
Unbarred the gates of light,"

A majestic mountain peak lifted his hoary head high above the contiguous summits, and with the blue sky for easel and great nature for brush traced his inverted likeness in inky blackness on the canvas of the sky. The general combination formed a scene of grandeur and sublimity I never saw equaled; one the pen shrinks from describing, and to which the power of words is wholly unequal, but which, once seen, can never be forgotten.

From this enchanting little valley we ascended the mountain, and, entering a thick growth of young pines, found snow of the previous night still on the ground. But we traveled steadily forward, and emerged from the timbered mountain late in the afternoon, where, descending a long hill, we came to a small stream of water that we afterward ascertained to be a tributary of Burnt River. As we were all in total ignorance of the locality, Daniel Smith and John Richards, of our company, and John Estes, of company N, taking their guns and a large field-glass, attempted to reach the summit of a bald, rock-capped "butte" on the opposite side of the stream, to a get a view of the surrounding country.

A half hour later, Richard came breathless into camp and informed us that his two companions had been slain while ascending the butte, and, so narrow had been his escape, that the tube had been shot from his gun, and not less than three balls had pierced his clothing. We were preparing our suppers when this startling news reached us, but, hurriedly mounting our horses, we charged up the acclivity to the lifeless bodies of our comrades unchallenged, and started to return to camp, but none to soon, for a large body of yelling savages came dashing toward us as we descended the hill, and, but for the timely aid furnished by another detachment of our men, they must have cut us off from camp. But night hung her sable curtain over us when extinguishing our fires, and we crouched down on our arms in the darkness, and allowed the savages to enjoy their triumph for the night.

In connection with the death of my old and much-esteemed friend Smith—for he was more like a father to me than a friend—I will state a remarkable dream he related to me about a week previous to his death:

Reining his horse to my side as we rode along, he began by saying that he had a dream the night before that impressed him so deeply that he felt it his duty to inform me of its purport, hoping that thereby I might be influenced to exercise such prudence that its realization would be impossible. He then stated with much feeling that he had plainly seen my dead body, nude and horribly mutilated, carried by my comrades down from a high hill through the ranks of yelling savages, and, wrapped only in a blanket, deposited in the ground, while hostile bullets whistled and screamed above and around. And this dream was realized in every particular, except that he himself was the victim.

How strange, I have often thought, if this was a premonition—and it would certainly look so—how strange that he was impressed that another was to be the subject, while he saw no danger to himself. This dream he related to a number of others, H. H. Ringo, and A. C. Chrisman, both messmates of his, being among the number.

[To be continued.]

Women Teachers.

A writer in *Harper's Monthly* gives a very interesting account of the invasion of women into the profession of school teaching. It is within the memory of middle-aged persons that women were rarely employed except as teachers of summer schools, where only small children attended. As late as 1845, a Rhode Island report shows only twelve teachers out of Providence, excepting something like infant schools in a few central districts. Fifteen years later the teachers had increased to two hundred, and the superintendent thought that two-thirds of the schools taught by men would be better taught and disciplined by women. Horace Mann was the foremost advocate of women teachers. He believed that women were better adapted than men to the work of teaching, and regarded their increase in the profession as a great reform. Partly as the result of his labors, the number of women teachers in Massachusetts in 1858 was 5,210, in place of 3,591 in 1837. In 1870, according to the census, seventy-four per cent. of all the teachers in the United States were women. In New England the excess of women is greater, but in the South and West it is smaller. In New York City ninety per cent. are women, but in the interior of the State the proportion of men is larger. Economy had much to do with the rapid increase of women teachers. Women in those days took what they could get, and were thankful for very small pay for a great deal of work. One of the earliest women teachers in Maine was paid one dollar and fifty cents a week. In Iowa at one time the average salary of women teachers was seven dollars and sixty-four cents per month. Men teachers were not paid very liberally in those days, but as they could earn more in other pursuits, they commanded more as teachers. It is stated that male graduates of the Bridgewater normal school, who began teaching at a salary of $25 per month, now receive from $3,200 to $4,000 a year. There are few States which have risen to the standard of paying the same salary to women as to men for like service. In Massachusetts the average salary of men in 1875 was $88 37; of women, $35 35. In Maine, men receive $37, women, $18. In Pennsylvania, men, $41 07, women $34. In Ohio, men $60, women $44.

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