MODOC REMINISENCES. The Lava Beds, Etc.

The Modoc war of 1872-3 is an in-Notwithstanding the fact that the whites numbered twenty or thirty to each Indian, the killed were nearly all on the side of the whites. The reason of this was the very great advantage the Indians had in their extraordinary position, and their intimate knowledge of the fighting grounds which, it will be remembered, was in the "Lava beds" in Modoc county. To explore this Chief Sconchion, who was hung, middle aged, (Indians don't know their viding line between Oregon and California. This lake is nearly a square, the distance have the appearance of tics. low, rolling hills. There being no practical road to the scene. there being no inhabitants near. The grounds seemed to be just as they were of defense. At first our guide seemed Very much indisposed; but confidential "Siwash" relate incidents of the war. He took us first to the grave yard, which is inclosed by a rock fence, and mou dain, just back of the o d camp

ground, and can be seen from all over the fighting grounds. About one mile further on near the lake shore, and to- erament service under democratic al. ward the "stronghold," is Gen. Canby's ministration has been mentioned remonument, which stands about ten feet peatedly, but new instances of reform high, based with a pyramid of rock, and the inscription—"Gen. Canby killed by the Modocs April 11, 1873." which deserve especial notice. The This is the place where it was agreed President probably never made a hap that a few whites and Indians should meet to council and make terms of peace. The conference was in session when, as a signal, Capt. Jack fired—

When, as a signal, Capt. Jack fired—

President probably never made a hap pier stroke of public policy than when he called Mr. Benedict here to the Public Printer. In the period of three Reasonable.

Gannon & Blackman. killing Canby. The others then drew months the notoriously demoralized their hidden weapons. Dr. Thomas government printing office has been was killed. Meacham was stunned and half scalped, when Toby-Meacham's handsome "Pocahontas the more work is now being done with the second"—exclaimed "Bostons coming." same amount of money, and the press The Indians klatawaed. Agent Dyar's room which three months ago had 400 long legs suddenly became useful and forms waiting for the press is now took him to camp. Meacham recovered. clear, having "caught up." We found this same Toby living on the Northern shore of the lake. About It is too bad the president cannot be two miles farther on is the "Strong- left in peace and quiet with his medhold" proper. It is wonderful what est little country home. As soon as nature has done here. Human intel- the real estate dealers of Washington lect could hardly devise a better means of protection. Though not of much elevation, these "Lava beds" are the real estate dealers of Washington knew of his intention to buy this place they secured as much ground in the very rough, having cliffs, capes, holes and cracks of all immaginable shapes and sizes. The Indians had every advantage. The whites were baffled on every attempt to approach. Our guide explained to our intense amusement organized for improvements at the pubhow the Indians maneuvered. They lic expense. Of course the president never fired twice in succession from has been in no way concerned in these the same place. They would make maneuvers, but rumors to that effect sure aim, fire, and immediately, while the soldiers were firing at the smoke cannot but be annoying to him. of the Indians gun, would run through the rock crevices and fire from Col. Lamont is forced to say there is not another point. It shooting from be- a word of truth in some report about

boat and pulled for the other shore. in the Tule lake and Lost river country. They were transfered against tigated. "We can take no notice of it their will to the Klamath reserve. officially," said Representative Sowden, They asked for and got permission to "for no Congressman has been individgo to Lost river fishing. They refused ually aspersed or injured, and whoever to return when the militia was sent after them. They answered the order demanded an investigation would be to return by firing at the commanding considered as putting himself on the officer, Then swam the river, killed defensive and confessing his guilt." all the whites they met. Body and son amongst others, whom they tied behind their wood wagon, turned the dragged home. They reached the "Lava beds" in safety. There were forty Modocs, boys and all, able to carry arms, but twenty of whom were warriors. Wright's company was all killed but two or four. Altogether the killed numbered about 200 whites, and but three Indians, Two Indian boys were killed by trying to extract the powder from an unexploded bomb. The Indians were routed by bombs and captured by a company of Warm and captured by a company of Warm publicly arrayed, and yet the investi-Spring Indians. Chief Sconchion, gation could be as thorough as necessa-Capt, Jack, Boston Charlie and Black ry.

Jim were hung at Fort Klamath. their graves and the scaffold from which they were hung can be seen at that place. About eighty Modocs are now in Indian Ty. A few who did engage in the war are living quietly here. Chief Schonchion, brother of the one who was hung, is still living. The Indians think his age about 120 teresting part of our national history. "snows" or years old.—Democrat.

KLAMATH AGENCY.

WASHINGTON LETTER Washington D. C. Nov. 29th 1886. This is one of the busiest weeks of the year in Washington. Congress will be here in one week, and everyregion-which has its peculiar attrac. body must be ready for it from the tions-we secured the services of the President to the boarding-house keeper. original Modoc warrior, Wahwah-l'ye- The President's message is receiving its ax, as guide. This Indian is son of last course of condensation and revision. Cabinet officers are performing similar ages,) an intelligent, shrewd fellow, work on their annual reports, and and speaks fair English. Now the their Assistants of the First, Second, Northern shore of Tule Lake is the dial hundred Bureau Chiefs, Comptrolland has an area of about 400 square ers, Auditors and officers too numerous miles. The "Lava beds" lie immedi | to mention, are arranging their figures ately on the Southern shore, and in and plodding over long tables of statis

The streets of the city are again crossed the lake from the North by alive with a busy, bustling throng and boat, landing first at Gen. Gillams up at the long deserted Capitol, Chair camp. This place is yet in the wilds, man Randall, with a quorum of his committee, has for a week been pressleft after the war. The breast-works ing work on Appropriation bills. He and rifle-pits were made almost entire- reports fine progress, and says Congress ly of rock. For miles almost every will not have to wait on him for money movable rock has been used as a means bills. During the week he has had in consultation, the heads of different argument reached his "Tum-tum" and Bureaus and government establish had the desired effect. It was extreme- ments, with regard to the needs of their ly interesting to hear this intellectual respective departments for the next year. Among these were Prof. Baird of the National Museum, Smithsonian tells in numbers for itself. The re. and Fish Commission; Superintendent mains have mostly been removed to Throne of the Coast Survey; Dr. God-Fort Klamath. The signal station- a ding of the Government Insane Asylofty rock—stand high on the side of a lum, Col. Wilson of Public buildings and grounds and others.

The improved condition of the govput in such order that about one third

Almost every day the President or hind bunches of sage, they would fire then roll quickly out of line, while the bullets would pepper the ground denial, which is very emphatic, is in where he was lying. They would put regard to an investigation which it a hat on a stick and hold it above the is alleged the President is conducting recks for the soldiers to empty their guns at. At one time they pitched out if any of the District Conducting whites who undertook to approach, along the line of the proposed exten-The Indians were always scattered sion of Massachusetts Avenue. The one or two in a place. If one got into a close place others would attract the attention of the whites from some other quarter while he escaped We were duties and did not care to interfere in the caves where the Indians lived, with outside matters,

and of course hunted for Capt. Jack's hidden treasures, viz., a hat full of gold and between one and two hundred guns. Jack's cave is a large, commo- police scandal alleging demoralization dious room, with entrance from the and rottenness in District affairs and top. There is a small, rough, dark entrance into one side, but we didn't venture in. Our Modoc friend tells us that they had plenty of beef, as one would judge from the great amount of bones scattered about, and that they sioners are honest and reliable, and enjoyed themselves finely, having war dances every night; some of their war songs he sung and interpreted for us. We went with him to his father's quarters; here he seemed solemn, the only time he exhibited other than a joyous feeling. In order to see all, we were compelled to remain over night, during which, as a substitute for sleep, we pulled sagebrush to keep from freez-

Speaking of the Police Scandal, cering. We took some views, gathered some relics and at dark launched our tain members of Congress have expressed their opinion that Congress The Modoc tribe, claimed and lived will not ask to have the matter inves-

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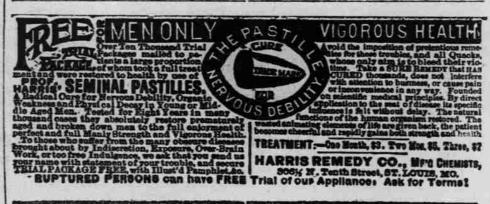
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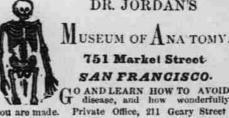
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