

### Indians Off Their Reservations.

The following letter was received by Judge Rutherford from Indian Agent, Geo. W. Harper, Umatilla Agency. This was sent to us for publication by the Judge. We publish it verbatim as written.

Judge Charles P. Rutherford,  
Drewsey, Oregon.

DEAR SIR; Yours in reference to what "citizens of your county say" about "my Indians coming into your county and killing deer in large numbers and removing their pelts—leave the meat etc.," received.

I have received numerous letters from different men and sections, since Jan. 16, 1894 of like import.

I don't know anything about the truth of these complaints, but with all due respect to "your citizens" I don't believe a word of it.

There is not a jury on earth that is familiar with the habits of Indians from the discovery of America down to this good hour that would convict an Indian on such a charge.

I'll give \$10 for every case like you mention if you will prove it by men who are truthful and who will "swear to their own hurt" where "my Indians" have slaughtered deer as you mention, and I am no Indian crank either.

If some of "your citizens" who does not want the world and the fullness thereof, will take the trouble to investigate they will find that when deer are killed and stripped of their skin and left to rot as you mention they will find that it is done by whites.

The custom of the Indians when they go on their hunts is if they kill any game they dry the fleshy parts taking all off the bones possible and then cook the bones with what sticks to them and eat it while hunting. The dried meat is brought home with them.

A great many of my Indians came back last fall without any meat at all.

I have on various occasions at their councils called their attention to these complaints. They say "thousands of Buffalo used to roam the plains, the Indian killed what he needed to eat and the herds grew, when the white man came, the carcasses of the Buffalo could be seen and smelt for miles, the white man took his pelt and left him for the coyotes: It was the same with the deer, and that these complaints were made to keep the Indians from getting any.

Their treaty stipulates that they shall have the right to take fish and game at their usual places.

In the mean time the Indian is subject to the law as well as the whites and if they come into your county and violate the law and you have competent proof punish him as you would the white.

I will certainly do all I can to prevent him from violating the law and will vouch for "my Indians" not leaving the carcass of a deer or like game to rot.

Respectfully,  
GEORGE W. HARPER,  
U. S. I. Agt.

Our readers can see from the foregoing letter that Mr. Harper would have us think that he puts the utmost confidence in his pets.

But we are of the opinion Mr. Harper is talking for effect instead of from the dictates of his own conscience. He's trying to palm the slaughter of deer off on the white man will not "pan out" for we know better.

We know there were great numbers of deer here until Mr. Harper's Indians were allowed to come here hunting and we desire to add it will be more healthy for his Indians to remain on their own hunting grounds.

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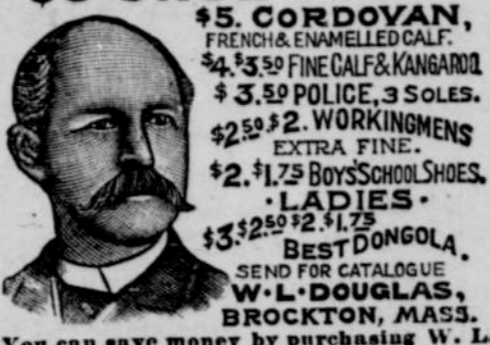
You are likely to be one of the victims! How do we know? Because it is the exception to find a man or woman of adult age in perfect health. Nervous Disorders are spreading with fearful rapidity. Among the symptoms, are—Backache, Headaches, Cold Hands and Feet, Dizziness, Hot Flashes, Fluttering Sensation, Fainting, Headache, Hysteria, Irritability of the Heart, Melancholy, Failing Memory, Palpitation, Rheumatism, Short Breath, Sleeplessness, Nervous Dyspepsia, Sexual Debility, Fits, etc.

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