

## AN INDIAN

## WAR STORY.

continued from page six.)

told, 27 Indians executed at different points on Hangman creek and the country round about. Among them was the red shirted warrior who shouted so lustily for peace. A odometer, a two-wheeled vehicle, provided with an attachment for measuring the distances traveled, in charge of John Mullan or "Mullen" Captain Weller was used. It is recorded, however, that the greatest number of hangings were made. Of the total number of Indians thus executed not one showed the white feather. Some did not wait for the odometer to be moved from under them, but leaped off as soon as the noose was adjusted around their necks.

On his return to Walla Walla Wright followed the course of Steptoe's retreat and along the line ravaged by the battle, gathered up the bones of the men, who had fallen and conveyed them to the fort for interment. The body of Lieutenant Conroy could not be found. Captain Taylor's body had been disinterred by the Indians. The howitzer buried at the foot of Steptoe butte could not be recovered.

Owing to the fact that so few points in the territory traversed by these expeditions bore any name at that time, and the further fact that the men engaged in them were not familiar with the country, it is difficult to locate with exactness many of the points that figure in the narratives. The place where the Pocumtuck was crossed is more certain, since it was probably not many miles west of Colfax, can yet, therefore, be located definitely.

Mr. O'Neill describes Colonel Steptoe as being a tall, lank man, with a thin, scraggy gray beard and an extremely sallow complexion. Colonel Wright was one of the opposite build, being short in stature and corpulent, wearing also a beard. Both men might have been termed "old" at the time of these expeditions.

Not long after the events mentioned hereof Steptoe was relieved at Fort Walla Walla and removed to southern California, and from thence to New Mexico, where he died a few years later.

(The End.)

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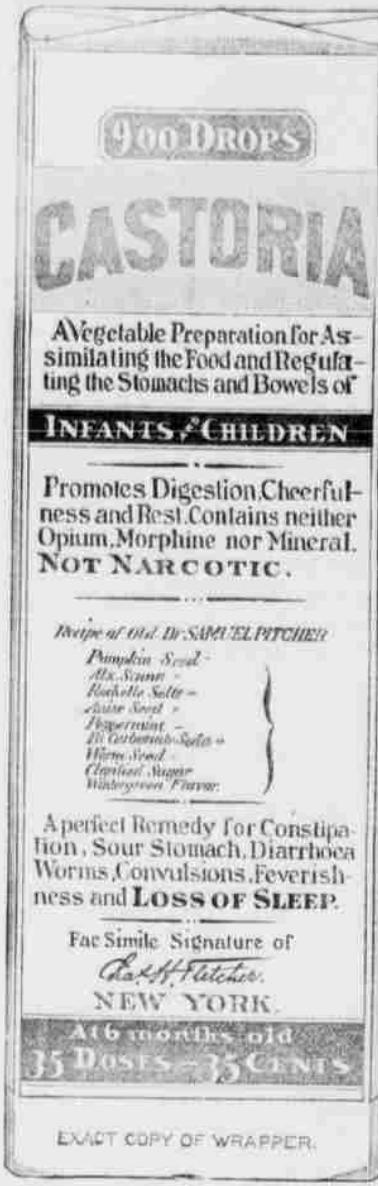
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