

THEIR LAST CHANCE. If the Indians Do Not Come in to Pine Ridge To-Day Firing Will Begin.

THE SOLDIERS CAN'T WAIT.

Exposure Is Telling on the Wall of Blue, and It Will Soon Be Unable to Fight.

ALREADY THE POCKET IS CLOSING.

Growing Belief That the Friendlies, Including Old Red Cloud, Are Playing a Game of Treachery.

SCOUTS FEAR A HAND TO HAND BATTLE.

The Honors of Wounded Knee to Be Repaid a Hundred Fold When the Attack is Made.

A BATTLE FAIRLY PREDICTED FOR TO-DAY.

It is altogether likely that to-morrow's sun will set upon a battle scene. The crisis is at hand.

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is guarding the road to Rushville. There is great apprehension at Pine Ridge. The feeling is general that it will be here that the final clash of this bloody war will come.

There has already been heavy long range skirmishing between the hostiles and the commands of General Brooke, Colonel Sanford and General Carr. The hemispherical blue wall is moving so close upon the savages that they must fight where they are or pull up their tepee stakes and run for the agency.

A three-inch rifled gun can sweep the country for four miles and have a recoil of 30 feet peeps through a breach in the earth works on the north which may be called the entrance to this mouth.

The Hotchkiss guns and gatlings are pointed to a ravine which would be one of the paths of the savages. These guns are behind the big dirt and stone barriers on the tute to the east.

Another Hotchkiss sticks its black muzzle into the Big Foot ravine on the left of the school house on the west, and can be worked so advantageously that in case of a fight it could sweep the plain for a mile in half a circle, and with the same effect on the north butte, could blow Red Cloud's house and its outfit into atoms.

Even the Officers Nervous. Six hundred infantry troops and commanders are here to receive the savages when they come moving along like the teeth of a tremendous mowing machine.

But despite the masterly-arranged cordons it is still not easy to see the savages. The civilians are alarmed. There are at least 1,500 heavily-armed warriors in the hostile camp.

Scouts report that many of the Redskins have no tepee stakes in camp in pockets in the shape of a ravine with pine trees arranged as to keep out snow and wind.

The hostiles are not all Brules. There are many blood-thirsty Ogalallas in the gang. The great majority of the hostiles are in the Dakotas is represented. Some of the savages have come east of the Missouri river.

Red Cloud in an interview with THE DISPATCH correspondent to-day, said that the village was filled with wounded from the battles at Wounded Knee, the Catholic mission, and on the ridges about the agency.

The great anxiety arises over the disposition to be made of the savages should they come into the agency without first giving battle. It is firmly believed that General Miles will not permit an Indian to enter the village in a grave that has not been covered with stones so that wolves and coyotes would not get at the body.

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This is the story told by Young-Man-Afraid-of-His-Horse, who returned from the village late this afternoon. The hostiles had not moved up to a late hour last night, for General Brooke, whose command is only seven miles from the savages, heard them singing until morning. It is probable, however, that the large party of Ogalallas are now on their way to the agency.

The Soldiers Must Fight. Circumstances are forcing a conclusion to the hostilities. Parleying will not be longer continued by either side. The Indians said yesterday that General Miles must prepare to fight or get off the reservation.

General Miles, it is said, has given them until to-morrow night to surrender, and if they do not come in by that time he will close in upon them. This is made necessary by the condition of his men. Those on the north have been pretty well worn out with camp life in this bleak climate and the cold marches from one position to another. They cannot stand it much longer, and unless matters are brought to an end at once, the Indians will have no one to oppose them but worn-out and frozen-out soldiers, unfit for duty. The conduct of the men has been exceptional, and they have borne their hardships without a murmur.

Closing Up the Pocket. When the proper time comes the crescent-shaped wall of soldiers will move up another peg, and as the army bulletin issued at noon grimly reads, "as circumstances may dictate."

Should the Indians continue in this direction, they have committed suicide. The bulletin continues, "The troops will not attack them, but if any of the renegades attempt to get away or succeed in piercing the blue wall they will be shot without mercy or pursued until caught alive or killed."

General Miles says every measure will be taken by the military to force the Indians into submission and avert serious trouble to the settlements. There are reasons for believing that this gigantic round-up cannot be accomplished without heavy fighting. There are scores of Indians in this village who will never surrender at agency without giving battle. They are not only crazy about the coming of the Messiah, but they fear the consequences of the many crimes they have committed since the trouble broke. It is considered certain that at least 1,000 dare-devils will out loose from the body during the march to the agency and attempt to cut away. In this event there will be plenty of work for the soldiers.

Burning Abandoned Cabins. Scouts report that dense columns of smoke which were seen to the north yesterday came from three abandoned cabins which the young bucks had fired. The house of Young-Man-Afraid-of-His-Horse was not burned. Late this morning two young Brules dashed up to the agency buildings. They had just come from the hostile camp. One of them had a streak of blue paint on his nose. Both were in white shirts. They leaped nimbly off their poles and bolted through the crowd to General Miles' headquarters, dragging their rifles behind them. The legions of the leaders had the zodiac worked upon them in beads. Indian police fell upon them and disarmed them. They then said they wanted to see General Miles. They were escorted to headquarters, where they were profuse in their assurances that the Brules meant no harm. General Miles told them to go back to their camp and tell their people to surrender without further trouble.

To Hold to Be Sane. When they left the agency grounds they were given their guns. Then they dashed away laughing at the Indian police. These fellows were not 20 years old, and doubtless came to the agency on some mysterious mission. Their boldness simply shows the craziness of the young daredevil Brules.

The Indian police who have been on duty around General Miles' headquarters day and night have been relieved and will in the future act as scouts. Their places will be filled by soldiers, it being the desire of the general to have his camp guarded by the military rather than by Brules.

The detachment of the Seventh Cavalry under command of Lieutenant Nicholson

at Wounded Knee. One of them had been shot in seven places. For 12 days they have been hiding in ravines. During a battle the party of ten wounded Sioux escaped. They sought refuge in the brush in the ravines. Seven of them died and are still unburied. Finally two squaws and a child were shot. The child was the only one of the party who escaped. The child fell from exhaustion, but the squaws, although weak from loss of food, lack of food, managed to reach the agency.

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A FIGHT FOR WEALTH. It Develops a Peculiar State of Affairs in One Household.

FINE LEGAL POINTS INVOLVED. In Two Wills Over Which the Struggle is Now Being Made.

CLAIM OF AN ADOPTED DAUGHTER. His Wife Tied to the Bed With Her Mouth Bandaged—Her Terrible Experience With Masked Robbers—They Secure \$225 From the Woman's Pocketbook.

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 10.—The evidence in the Vedder-Hartshorn will contest is practically closed, and it developed the fact that a very peculiar state of affairs existed for years in the Vedder-Hartshorn household.

It was found that the late Vedder, who died in 1873, leaving an estate valued at \$150,000. He was survived by a widow. There were no children except Ida, an adopted daughter, to whom Mr. and Mrs. Vedder were greatly attached.

Her real name was Ida Aspell, and she was taken from a foundling institution in New York City when she was 4 years old. By his will, Mr. Vedder gave his widow a life interest in the entire estate, and provided that at her death there should be paid to Ida Vedder \$8,000. The residue of the estate was then to go to religious and charitable institutions, mainly of the Methodist Episcopal denomination.

Mr. Vedder's will was attested by the State Street Methodist Church, of which Edwin A. Hartshorn, the author of several tariff bills, was also a member. He was President of the Cable fur mills in Schaghticoke. To him the widow frequently went for aid.

Hartshorn Wins the Widow. Hartshorn proposed marriage in 1881 and was accepted. After the wedding a trans-continental bridal trip followed. While away on this holiday they traveled in first-class style, and by the time they were ready to leave Denver Hartshorn was out of funds. He made a call on his wife and she responded with \$1,000.

On their return to this city one of the first acts of Hartshorn was to demand that his wife reimburse him for the expenses attending the wedding and the trip as far as Denver. She declined. Frequent squabbles resulted. "Vedder" was the name inscribed on the plate of the big front door of the Fifth avenue residence. He did not like the name, and he had a plate made with his name engraved upon it, but when he attempted to place it upon the door, Mrs. Vedder-Hartshorn entered a decided protest.

A Hospital Case. A hospital case was reported. A young girl, who had been taken to the hospital, was found to have been poisoned. The doctor said: "Oh, no; I don't want to try you lymph and be poisoned. I'll take my chances without it." A third wanted to write to his mother and see if they would have any objections to his being inoculated. A fourth said he had sent for his friends, and he wanted to talk with them about it first to see whether they thought it would be desirable.

Some Discouraged Doctors. And so the excuses ran, and Dr. Hughes could not persuade one of the ten to believe that the lymph could do him good. Finally the doctor left the ward, and disgust was written all over his face. Pretty soon the members of the visiting staff began to arrive. Dr. Roland G. Curtis, Dr. J. B. Walker, and Dr. Solomon Solis were on duty. The little girl looked blushing at the crowd at intervals, when she was not hiding her head shamefacedly among the folds of her mother-in-law's dress. She said she had been married to Yusuf seven months ago at the residence of the doctor. She and her husband are Christianized Syrians. They were brought up together and were fellow-toddlers in frocks.

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The effects of his parents put a stop to the habit were negated by him with a cunningly-guessed characteristic of mania. After acting queerly for some time he became violent on Thursday night, and when he was taken to the hospital, it was necessary to strap him to his cot to prevent him from injuring himself. His paroxysms have now subsided, but he lies on his cot pale and thin, and his mind is so saturated with nicotine, the chief cause of his trouble was his practice of inhaling cigarette smoke.

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When she recovered she said that about 9 o'clock she went into her dressing room and began preparations for retiring. She had hardly commenced disrobing when she noticed a chiffernier moving quietly. In a moment a masked man appeared from behind the chiffernier. Following this frightful figure came a second, dressed in a similar costume. At this time Mrs. Campbell had stood perfectly still, too frightened to cry out, but after both had entered she fled to the bed and made a dash for the door. The burglars followed her and bound her feet to the bed just as she lay.

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WON'T TAKE LYMPH. The Carefully Prepared Subjects at Philadelphia Rebel.

AFRAID OF THE EFFECTS OF IT. The Hospital Staff Were All Ready With Their Appliances. EXCUSSES THE PATIENTS OFFERED.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 10.—One of the nurses at the Philadelphia Hospital rushed hurriedly into the office of Chief Resident Physician Hughes early yesterday morning, and excitedly exclaimed: "Doctor, the patients won't try the lymph." The effect of this announcement was startling. Dr. Hughes sat riveted in his chair for a moment; then, running his fingers through his hair, which was already rising with anger, and lifting his eyes to the nurse, he asked, with a rising inflection in his voice "What?"

"Those men swear they will not allow you to experiment upon them with the lymph," said the nurse, who had been talking to the patients who had been selected for Thursday for inoculation, and who had agreed to submit, he found they had not a word of sense in their heads. It was a bitter disappointment. Then, too, he knew that the entire staff would be gathered in his office in a very short time, and that each would be just as greatly disappointed as he was.

What had caused the change of heart between night and morning he could not ascertain. Each patient had an excuse for not wanting the lymph injected into his system. One said: "Doctor, I don't propose to be used for experimental purposes. Try some other kind of cure first." Another remarked: "Oh, no; I don't want to try you lymph and be poisoned. I'll take my chances without it." A third wanted to write to his mother and see if they would have any objections to his being inoculated. A fourth said he had sent for his friends, and he wanted to talk with them about it first to see whether they thought it would be desirable.

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The effects of his parents put a stop to the habit were negated by him with a cunningly-guessed characteristic of mania. After acting queerly for some time he became violent on Thursday night, and when he was taken to the hospital, it was necessary to strap him to his cot to prevent him from injuring himself. His paroxysms have now subsided, but he lies on his cot pale and thin, and his mind is so saturated with nicotine, the chief cause of his trouble was his practice of inhaling cigarette smoke.

THEY UNCONDITIONALLY SURRENDER. A Chicago Strike Which Delayed Work on Pittsburg's Federal Building. CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—The steamfitters of the city, with their helpers, in number about 1,000, have been on strike for three months, returned to work to-day. They asked for an advance in wages, the recognition of their union, etc. They failed at all points, and went back to work unconditionally.

The effects of the strike were not altogether local. It has delayed work on the Government building at Pittsburg, as the work was under contract to a Chicago firm. Jobs at other points were also delayed by the strike.

SWAMPED BY A CONTRACT. A Springfield Firm of Boiler Makers Goes to the Wall. SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 10.—Armstrong Brothers, boiler makers, assigned this afternoon to Robert Johnson, of this city. The firm employs 250 men, and has been running tight and day.

MEETING THE ISSUE. The Mayor Prepares a Message to Councils, With a Suggestion TO CUT DOWN EXPENSES.

In Order to Meet a Probable Loss by the Street Act Decision. SOME OF THE LAW YET STANDS. Assessments on Unfinished Contracts May Be Legalized. WAITING FOR AN OPINION OF EXPERTS.