

THE TOMAHAWK.

"Truth before Favor."

VOL. 1, WHITE EARTH, BECKER COUNTY, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, SEPT. 3, 1903, NO. 23.

The TOMAHAWK.

GUS. H. BEAULIEU - - - Publisher.

White Earth Agency, Minn.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER devoted to the interests of the White Earth Reservation and general Northwestern News. Published and managed by members of the Reservation.

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THE TOMAHAWK
WHITE EARTH, MINN.

RESERVATION LANDS TO LEASE

100,000 acres of first class farm lands on White Earth Reservation, in tracts of 80 acres and more, by ALLOTTEES.

INDIAN PROTECTIVE Association
200 Bond Building
Washington D. C.

Dan'l B. Henderson, Att'y.

Indian claims against the United States a speciality.

K. S. MURCHISON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
LATE LAW CLERK, LAND
DIVISION, INDIAN OFFICE.
DEPARTMENT PRACTICE A
SPECIALTY.

LOAN AND TRUST BLD'G.
WASHINGTON D. C.

Hotel Leecy.

White Earth, Minn.
The Largest and Most
Commodious Hotel on
the Reservation.

Table always bountifully supplied with everything that the market affords, including game and fish in season.

A large and comfortable, Feed and Livery stable in connection with Hotel.

JOHN LECY Prop.

Selam Fairbanks,

Dealer in
DRY GOODS,
GROCERIES,
HARDWARE
and
Lumbermen - - Supplies.

Market price paid for Ginseng Snake Root and Furs.

Orders for pure Maple-Syrup, and wild rice promptly attended to.

BEAULIEU - - - MINN.

"the Tomahawk."

TRIAL Subscriptions.
3 months - - - - - 40 Cents
6 months - - - - - 75 Cents

NO TROUBLE AT ONIGUM.

Major Scott, the Agent, Says
There Has Been None and
None is Expected.

ORIGINAL STORY TRACED TO GAMBLING
OF VAGABOND REDS AND AN IMAGIN-
ATIVE CORRESPONDENT.

Washington Has Not Heard From Scott and
Discounts the Rumors of War.

Cass Lake, Minn., Aug. 28.—Major Scott, acting Indian agent, arrived in Cass Lake early this morning and left a few hours later for Onigum, the Leech Lake agency. He knew absolutely nothing about the reported outbreak among the Indians at the agency and believed there was no foundation for the story printed in twin city papers.

Gud Kulander, owner of the agency store, met the major here and it was learned from him that the story of serious trouble among the reds originated largely in the fertile brain of a correspondent of a St. Paul paper. Mr. Kulander said that two Indians had told Flatmouth they were dissatisfied and would make trouble. These vapourings of some vagabond Indians are made much of by "string fiends" to the detriment of the community and to the disgust of Major Scott.

One Indian who has been threatening trouble has just been released from serving a sentence for selling liquor on the reservation and is desirous of getting even. Major Scott has prosecuted the violators of the liquor laws to the fullest extent and intends to follow this course till the illegal traffic is wiped out. He has the respect and is also feared by the Indians with but one or two exceptions, and his administration of the affairs of the agency has been satisfactory alike to the government and the Indians. He is a man absolutely without fear and has often told the reds that if they wanted to fight he is ready to accommodate them.

The rumor of threatened massacre of whites and a contemplated exodus in consequence is a "pipe dream" and can be officially denied as such. The little discontent will be speedily adjusted when the major arrives at Onigum.—Minneapolis Journal.

Some of the newspapers of this State have recently published some reports from Walker regarding a probable outbreak among the Indians at Leech Lake.

In the above clipping taken from the Minneapolis Journal you will note Maj. Scott's denial and says there is no foundation to the report, while in the Duluth News-Tribune, Frank Tufts, United States deputy marshal, whose accredited residence is at Walker, states that there is some trouble which the halfbreeds and quarter-bloods are stirring up, on account of the vigorous prosecution of "bootleggers" and saloon men at Walker by Major Scott; that the Indians have been advised by the halfbreeds that this is trampling on their rights.

We know that Frank Tufts' statement is untrue, for he knows nothing whatever about the Leech Lake Indians, their troubles, or what has prompted them to act insolently towards the government officials at Leech Lake during the recent past, and he is the last man they would confide in.

We will predict that before many moons the responsibility for Indian dissatisfaction will become generally known throughout this State.

The Indians as a rule, have not the slightest objections to the prosecution of "bootleggers" or saloon men who sell whiskey to them, and it is seldom that they cannot be induced to testify against this class. But they do object to arbitrary and unjust acts of their

agent and agency clerks, in having them thrown into the ~~agency~~ jails to make them tell where they bought whiskey, or for some act not pleasing to these agents and clerks.

It has been the custom not only at Leech Lake but also here at White Earth, for Indian agents to send Indian policemen after individuals, and order them confined in the agency jails upon some real or trumped up charges in connection with whiskey or some other misdemeanor, without giving these individuals a hearing.

This thing has been carried on to such extremes that not only the fullbloods but the mixedbloods are discussing the matter seriously.

The fullbloods have threatened to take matters into their own hands, while the mixedbloods are favorable to taking the matter into the courts and by damage or other suits, testing the agent's authority in these, unquestionably, illegal acts.

We have always strongly opposed to the sale of whiskey to Indians or its introduction into reservations, and we recognize the utter helplessness of the authorities if they cannot lock drunken men in jail, but this is the lesser of two evils which confronts us today, namely; whether we will submit any longer to indiscriminate imprisonment without any authority of law, or whether it would be better to not resist this unlawful imprisonment in order that a boisterous or unruly drunken man may be put in jail and be made to remain there during the pleasure of an Indian agent. We believe the latter to be the lesser of the two evils, and this is undoubtedly reservation sentiment so let us act.

The Indian; Right and Wrong.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that ALL MEN are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS"—Declaration of Independence July 4th, 1776.

A NEW ENTERPRISE.

We call the attention of our readers that, beginning with September 6th., the Duluth News-Tribune will issue, in addition to its regular edition, a Sunday comic supplement of four pages. This improvement has been arranged at a great expense, for the edification of the young people.

We take leave to say that the News-Tribune, in its latest stroke of enterprise will undoubtedly come to the expectation of its readers as it has always done in the past.

The Tribune in its dress and edification certainly speaks for itself, for a newspaper of its size, number of pages, the excellent workmanship, and its interesting contents is worthy of pride by its supporters and patrons. We wish it success in its new department, and we know from its push and alertness the new venture will be a success.

The Tribune is made up of three divisions; daily, Sunday and weekly. For the reservation people, in fact to the Indians in the northern states, it should be intensely interesting, as it comes in close touch with all the leading topics of the Indian question, and it especially upholds the rights and interests of all the Indians who live in the northern states.

SECRETARY HITCHCOCK AND INDIAN LANDS.

A Washington special to the Duluth News-Tribune asserts that it is the intention of Secretary Hitchcock to save Indian lands; that since early last spring he has been giving a large share of his personal attention to this matter.

The secretary, it seems, made a tour of the Indian Territory during the past summer, and learned that persistent efforts were being made to secure Indian lands far below their real value. As a consequence of this inquiry he made a radical revision of the regulations for the sale of allotted lands. The new rules require that all Indian lands that are for sale shall be advertised and appraised by a competent official.

The secretary has cancelled all sales made prior to the time the new regulations took effect. There were 420 of these deeds, calling for an aggregate payment of \$360,000. All these deeds with the checks, have been returned to the purchasers.

Under the law the secretary has control of the land sales around which he places safeguards for the protection of the Indian owners.

The secretary, it is further stated, realizes that while there are many shortcomings on the part of some of the government officials, there are on the other hand many men not employed by the government who have grievances against these same officials and are disposed to make all the trouble they can for them. The secretary says he will protect the officials who are doing their duty against the schemes of all such people.

In previous issues, the TOMAHAWK has stated that, the very rules which the secretary has adopted for the sale of inherited Indian lands, has really been the cloak under which combinations have been formed. As long as these rules continue to be used in the sale of Indian lands, it will be impossible to obtain fair and legitimate competition in the sale of these lands. There must be, in order to correct existing evils and to prevent collusions with government officials, a radical change in the method of selling the lands; the Indians must have the say as to the prices and conditions of the sales, and the secretary the approval or disapproval instead of the exclusive right, which he claims, of fixing the conditions of these sales.

If the secretary is really in earnest to do what is right in regard to Indian land sales, he should allow the Indians their inherited lands under such conditions as they may deem proper and with the best advantage to themselves, and if any of these sales are fraudulent then he might interpose his purgative of disapproval if fraud is established.

If the Indians on this reservation were permitted to sell their inherited lands without the restrictions prescribed by the departmental rules, they would receive from three to five dollars more per acre than they are now receiving for these lands, for, by selling to actual settlers, who, as a rule, are only able to pay a portion of the purchase price down, they would get what the speculators, who have the funds to pay the full amount of the purchase price, would receive as his profits by selling to these actual settlers.

Of course it would be necessary to take the notes of the actual settler purchaser very often, but with good security these could

easily be transferred into cash by selling them to the banks for their full value less the interest.

A united effort should be made by the Indians in this State to secure a change in the manner of selling inherited Indian lands, with the view to giving them more privileges than are now accorded them in the matter. If they are expected to learn the value of land, they should be permitted to make their own bargains when selling the same, and thus be prepared to protect themselves by the experience they would obtain in the sale of inherited lands when they receive their allotments in fee simple.

LUMBERMEN AND THE CHIP- PEWAS VS. THE MORRIS ACT.

EACH DESIRE TO HAVE IT AMENDED.

It is very evident that the lumbermen in this state are, for some reason, anxious to secure a postponement of the sale of Chippewa pine timber. We have it from good authority that they desire some amendments made to the act, principally that portion which relates to the burning of tops and other refuse after the timber has been cut. They argue that this work will cost at the rate of two dollars per thousand, and that this expense will necessarily come out of the Indian, for it will have to be taken into consideration when the bids for the timber are made; that the removal of the debris caused by the cutting of the timber, is not for the benefit of the Indians but for the purpose of protecting the forest reserves created by the act.

The TOMAHAWK has, in the past, taken occasion to criticize the Morris Act, and it has frequently pointed out briefly the bad features therein.

It has especially referred to the great injustice of taking from the Indians, arbitrarily, 225,000 acres of land and five percent of the timber thereon, for forestry purposes, without due compensation to the Indians therefor.

While this is the principal objection to the act from the Indian point of view, there are other objections to it equally as important to the interest of the Minnesota Chippewas, and these are in regard to the unlimited number of big salaried positions created by the act. We have always taken the position that the act was drawn up more for the purpose of creating soft jobs for politicians than for the benefit of the Indians, and this is also the opinion of the members of the tribe who have given the subject any study.

The sale of Chippewa pine timber this year without compelling the purchasers of it to cut and remove it immediately, is a great menace to the interests of the Indians, for if one extension is granted what guarantee have the latter that further extensions will not be given at the expiration of the first extension. Politics, lumbermen and wealth are powerful and can secure almost any concessions from an administration.

The motives of the lumbermen in the opposition to the Morris Act are undoubtedly personal and selfish, although they point out the great injustice of the act to the Indians.

A special from Minneapolis to one of the Duluth newspapers recently, stated that the lumbermen are invoking the aid of the friends of the Indians to work for amendments to the Morris Act.

In this we hope they will succeed, and if their work will result in any benefit to the Indians the latter should cooperate with them no matter what their motives may be, for if any amendments are made to the act, we can always rely on the true friends of the Indians to protect the interests of the latter.

The chiefs and headmen of the tribe should lead their hearty cooperation towards securing amendments to the Morris Act, and should not do as they did before while it was pending Congress, let it be passed by default, but they should send strong petitions to the government setting forth their wishes, and these petitions should be presented to the President in person by a delegation of three or four of the leading chiefs of the tribe.

SCHOOL HAS BEGUN.

The White Earth Boarding School Opens With Fairly Good Attendance. Great Chances in its Musical Department. Greater Opportunities in the Line of Trades.

Another school year has dawned upon us and it is for the boys and girls to get diligent and good, studious and cheerful. Time is ever fleeting, and the hours and days will fly by again and it will not be for you to say, "I know not where." You will have to make new records, good or bad and you cannot take them back; you can only look back and try to improve them.

We sincerely wish the superintendent and his force of employees the best wishes of success, and urge them on to push with tireless energy and increasing effort in their work of making the young all that is best and noblest in life. When this school year is over, you will look over the ground you had passed, review your acts and deeds, we hope you will not find a wish that you would live them over again and improve your works.

In the school of this size, one of the most essential traits is harmony with one another. Let your days be happy and joyful, make them broader and better by the association with one another. Endure toil and hardship, labor and struggle together; then when this year is done and perhaps for the last time you may want to say, "good bye" to one of you, then will you feel how hard it is to go a way sorrowfully from scenes so familiar, you will feel the sacredness of friendship, not only that, but you will feel that success in the school has been shared by all the rest.

Parents are sometimes heard to complain that "this one can get his children in the school while I cannot." There are parents here who are well able to provide for their children, and these should go to the day schools; while those who are in need should be taken in at the boarding school.

The capacity of the school will soon be reached, but there is still room for boys and more girls.

Special efforts are being made in the musical division of the school, and wide opportunities will be given to pupils in this line of study.

The industrial department has been greatly increased and also a new shop building is underway and before the cold weather sets in, the completion of the building is certain, and the convenience of the instructors will also allow a larger number of pupils who may wish to learn the various trades.