

[Delivered before the Sixth Legislative Assembly, in Joint Convention, Saturday, January 14, 1871.]

MESSAGE

—OF THE—

Governor of Arizona.

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE TERRITORY OF ARIZONA:

It is the duty of the Executive to lay before you, at the commencement of your sessions, such information concerning the affairs of the Territory, and make such suggestions with regard to its interests and wants, as may aid you in your deliberations. You have been chosen at a time of peculiar interest to the Territory.

It now exceeds two years since a session of the legislative assembly has convened. During that period, the improvements and population of the Territory have steadily increased. Many valuable mines have been discovered, and the yield from those in operation have been remunerative.

Practical experience and prudent economy to a great extent have taken the place of theoretical and extravagant mining; agriculture has kept pace with the demand for produce and several new farming settlements have sprang into flourishing existence. It is now a demonstrated fact, that Arizona has locked up in her rock-bound mountains vast deposits of the precious metals, and that her grazing and agricultural resources are unsurpassed.

Experience and the development of our resources have demonstrated the necessity of amending some of our statutes, and of framing new ones. To your intelligent care these interests are confided, and it is to be hoped you will give them that careful consideration the importance of the subject demands.

THE INDIANS.

The question of paramount importance since the acquisition of the Territory, has been, and is now, the hostility of the Apache Indians. The history of these Indians is written in blood. They have caused the bones of our people to lie bleaching along every highway and in every settlement of the Territory; their tortures, murders and robberies, hang like the dark pall of night over every enterprise: stealthily they creep upon the farmer in the field, or lie in ambush by the road side for the unsuspecting traveler; taking little or no risk for their own safety, they spring from concealment upon their victims with murderous effect; nomadic in their habits, they roam generally in small bands over nearly the whole Territory, and cause insecurity and loss of life and property over the larger portion of it.

No people in the early settlement of any of our Territories have suffered more or met with greater loss of life and property in proportion to the population and wealth than those of Arizona, and none have faced these dangers and endured the hardships incident to pioneer settlements with greater fortitude.

The troops in the Territory have been active, and in the main commanded by brave and efficient officers, but the force is entirely inadequate to the prosecution of an energetic, aggressive war, and no other kind of war will ever reduce the Apache to submission.

Several previous Legislatures have memorialized Congress to give the Governor authority to raise volunteers, and our Delegate has introduced a bill for this purpose, but so far no action thereon has been taken by that body.

I am of the opinion that volunteers raised among our own people, inured to the climate, acquainted with the habits of the Indians and the country, and fighting for their homes and firesides, would be found efficient and in the end more economical for the Government than the regular troops. In the month of August last, the Indians made a simultaneous movement along the Southern Overland road. Two stage drivers were killed, one stage captured, and all on board were murdered; a train was taken and all with it killed, and a stage station, twenty-two miles east of Tucson, was taken and but one of the inmates escaped alive. Several others were killed about that time. The condition of affairs became so alarming that the cit-

izens of Tucson contributed a sum sufficient to place a small company in the field; they were mostly Mexicans by birth and not mounted. I took command of the company, and acted a part of the time in conjunction with Capt. E. Miles and his command of the regular army; and also, for a time with Lieut. Cushing. We were in the field twenty-seven days, and during that time these men marched on foot above six hundred miles, much of the time over a rocky, mountainous country. Their endurance and conduct were everything that could be desired. I believe a few companies of this class of our citizens would be found invaluable in subduing the hostile Apaches. The Coyoteros and Apache-Mohave Indians, branches of the Apache tribe, have expressed a desire for peace, and a large Reservation has been set apart for the former by the United States. I visited this Reservation in June last, and believe the larger number of this band earnestly desire peace. I found they were very poor, with no seed for planting except that furnished by the military authorities, and they were of necessity obliged to roam over a large extent of country, as Indians always are unless provided with ample agricultural facilities. I found the military doing everything possible to provide them with seed, but were not authorized to supply even their present wants, except in limited amounts, consequently the Indians had to principally depend upon game for subsistence. Much dissatisfaction and ill feeling exist on the part of the settlers on account of the general belief that portions of this tribe join with marauding bands against them, and as soon as their nefarious work is done, return to their reservation for safety. The Apache Mohaves have received no assistance except from the military authorities, and that of necessity has been limited; and from personal observation, strengthened by information received from officers and citizens who have been more or less among them, I am convinced they have been for some time past in a suffering condition; and I shall not be surprised if in a few weeks, and perhaps days, they are again in open hostility. Three persons were murdered recently near Prescott, and it is charged by well informed citizens to these Indians. They have also banded together in considerable numbers and made demands on the inhabitants of Chino valley for food with which the latter were unable to comply. The Indians retired without actually commencing hostilities, but informed the people that they would return with increased numbers and take what they wanted. The danger was considered so imminent that all the families of the valley were removed to Prescott for safety, and quite as much alarm now prevails with the people as when these Indians were in avowed hostility.

The Indians now engaged in open hostility, are the Pinals, Tontos, what is commonly known as Cochises band, and more or less renegades from all the bands that assume to be on terms of peace. It is also a well established fact that the Navajoes, who occupy a reservation in New Mexico, have made frequent raids and stolen property and murdered citizens, as far west as Prescott. I believe I have fairly stated to you the condition and position the Apache Indians occupy towards us at present. I have given this subject much thought, and expended much time in its personal examination, and am led to the following conclusions as to the policy which ought to prevail in the future.

The Apache Indians have never manifested the least disposition to live on terms of peace, until after they had been thoroughly subjugated by military power, and any attempt to compromise before they are reduced to this condition, is accepted by them as an acknowledgment of weakness and cowardice; therefore, my opinion is that in the end it would be economy to the government and humanity to both whites and Indians to prosecute the war with relentless vigor until they are completely humbled and subjugated; after which I believe it to be equally necessary for the government to be prepared to accept and provide for them in their new relations towards the whites. These Indians, before they lay down their arms, depend to a great extent upon theft for their support, and when this mode of supply ceases, hunger and suffering must ensue, unless the government is prepared at once to assist them. They should be removed to a reservation of such circumscribed limits that constant watch could be kept over them; the reservation instead of being held in common, should be divided into reasonable sub-divisions as would give to each family a home and the necessary land to grow the food they require. They should, also, be stimulated and assisted to improve and cultivate their lands, and constant care

should be exercised over them to the end that they plant, cultivate and harvest their crops in due season, and to prevent the evil disposed from joining marauding bands to the great injury of our people and the well disposed of their own tribe.

They do not base their desire for peace upon the condition that it is wrong to murder a white man or woman or steal property. I have had frequent conversations with leading men of the Apache tribe, and never heard one profess a desire for peace upon any other consideration than that of self-interest. Now, let the fact be once established in their minds that in a state of peace they will be better fed and clad than in a state of war, selfishness alone will do much towards securing and continuing friendly relations. Let this policy be adopted, and they will be rapidly drawn towards civilized life, while if occupying large reservations and owning the lands in common, generations may pass away and they will still remain the same wild Indians. On the other hand, if weeks, months, and perhaps years elapse after they surrender before the Indian Department comes near or offers a helping hand, and they are permitted to roam at will, quite invariably and certainly they will fall back into their old habits, and under a semi guise of friendship, become more damaging to settlers than when in avowed hostility.

The Pima and Maricopa Indians, occupying a reservation on the Gila River, have been considered the faithful allies of the whites, but for a considerable period in the past, much complaint has been made by settlers living adjacent, and by people driving stock through their reserve, of overt acts on the part of the young men of the tribe. It is alleged that they have frequently stolen property and destroyed or appropriated to their use fields of grain, and have often been impudent and overbearing.

Another source of uneasiness to settlers adjoining the reservation has arisen in consequence of the lines of the old reservation having been extended, by survey under authority of the government, so as to include many valuable farms belonging to the settlers who made their locations in good faith outside of the reservation, many of which have been, at great expense, brought under cultivation. It has been stated that the recent extension of the survey was in consequence of the land having formerly been granted to them by the Mexican or Spanish government. This would be a good reason if it were true, but I have taken careful steps to ascertain the facts in the case, and am unable to find that such grant was ever made; therefore, the only matter to be determined is simply the justice of the question, and in its determination the rights of the citizens ought not to be ignored.

In view of the fact that the Pimas occupy one of the most favored locations for agriculture in the Territory, and have within their old reservation many thousands of acres more than they now or ever will cultivate; and in the further consideration that this extension deprives many honest, industrious citizens of their homes and all they have, and throws just so much more land open to uncultivation, the extension seems to me manifestly unjust and unwise. As Congress has to legislate upon the subject before this extension can be finally established, it will be your duty to take such action in the premises as you deem advisable to prevent if possible the consummation of an act of great injury to the best interests of the Territory.

SCHOOLS.

Next in importance to the Indian question, none will claim your attention over that of devising some plan for the education of the youth of our Territory. The recent census returns show a population of children under the age of twenty-one and over six years, of 1923, and the mortifying fact has to be admitted that we have not a public school in the Territory. There is and has been for sometime a school in Prescott, under the management of S. C. Rogers, and much credit is due that gentleman for his zeal and efforts to encourage education. The Sisters of St. Joseph have recently established a school in Tucson for the education of females, and too much praise cannot be accorded them for leaving home and its surrounding comforts and coming to this remote Territory, to promote education. With limited means and in a strange land they have overcome every obstacle and in a few months established a school creditable to any country, and which is already attended by about one hundred and thirty pupils.

But the object most desirable to at-

tain is the adoption of a school system for free public schools, so that the poor and rich alike can share equal benefits. In a country like ours, where the power to govern is derived from the consent of the governed, it becomes a matter of vital importance and necessity, if we are to protect and make permanent our republican institutions, that the people shall be educated; not only this, but history records the fact that the power and glory of nations and peoples keep pace only with their enlightenment and intelligence. The kingdom of Prussia inaugurated her grand march of progress with the education of her people by compulsory laws. The battles of Sadowa and Sedan were grand triumphs of mind over matter, of knowledge over ignorance. The soldiers that fill the ranks of her armies, by the fostering care of the government, are educated, and when they carry the banner of their country from one triumphant battle field to another, they do so with a lofty intelligence and patriotism. Prussia through the learned capacity of her people, has been enabled to reconstruct the map of Europe, and within the past five years has dictated terms of peace to one of the leading powers, and holds another at this time within her iron grasp, and has aggrandized her power and glory by uniting the "Fatherland" under one flag and nationality.

The little republic of Switzerland has adopted a system of compulsory education, and it is estimated at this time there is scarcely a child of sufficient age that has not made some advancement in education, and the result is that a people who in former times, practised mercenary warfare for a livelihood, under the benign influence of education, has become among the most orderly, industrious and intelligent of Europe, and take front rank in all the enterprises of life.

I am of the opinion that our government should adopt a system of free schools for the whole people, and that as soon as it were put in operation, should by law compel the attendance of every child of sound mind and proper age throughout the length and breadth of the Republic. There are but two ways of maintaining a government, one by standing armies and military power, the other through the intelligence and patriotism of the people.

Our government is founded upon the latter theory, and to make the system complete and insure the perpetuity of our institutions, it is far more important that every man shall be armed with an intelligent ballot than with the most improved and destructive weapon. This system once adopted, we would be soon enabled to make the proud boast that no nation on the globe is in advance of ours in point of education. I believe it to be the duty of the government to give a helping hand to the infant Territories that are destined soon to become States of the Union, and especially do I believe the Territories acquired from Mexico should receive marked consideration in this direction. The people of these Territories have suddenly been transferred from another government to our own. Speaking a foreign tongue, we call upon them to adopt our customs and obey our laws. They are generally well-disposed, law-abiding citizens and have but little means; they have and will continue to have an important influence in the governing power of the country, and it is essential that they should be educated in the language of the laws that govern them. This question has already been agitated in Congress, and many of our statesmen take a liberal view of it. It is to be hoped that Congress will, at an early period, adopt such measures as will at least insure education in the Territories; but until that time arrives, I consider it imperatively necessary that we shall do something for ourselves.

The present school law has been found inadequate to accomplish the desired object; in fact it has been wholly inoperative. To obtain the means to put a free school system in operation, I would recommend that a portion of the Territorial revenues be set apart for school purposes, and that this fund be divided between the several counties of the Territory in proportion to the number of children that attend school. The boards of Supervisors of the several counties should be compelled to divide the counties into one or more school districts, and levy a tax upon all the property of the county to raise a sufficient fund, with the money derived from the Territory, to maintain for a term of at least six months each year, one or more free schools in each of the counties. This will undoubtedly to a small extent increase taxation, but I hardly believe there is a property owner who would not prefer to pay an increased tax than see the rising generation grow up in ignorance; and the small extra tax that is required to maintain free schools will very soon be

doubly repaid in the saving of expenses in criminal prosecutions. This important trust is confided to your care, and I may be permitted to say that you have the power to build a monument that will last while time endures, and generation after generation will rise up and point to your work if properly done as the first successful advance made in favor of free education in this Territory.

I have alluded to the Pima Indians, but in connection with this subject, I desire to observe that I was informed, by the chief of that tribe, last summer, that what they most desired, were schools to educate their children. He said they had means in abundance for their support, but schools were beyond their reach; that they had asked and plead in vain for them. He desired my influence in their behalf. I immediately called upon the agent in charge, and was informed by him that he was restricted to the payment of six hundred dollars per annum for teachers, and he could procure no one for that sum to undertake the work. I also brought the matter to the attention of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. It is to be hoped that steps will speedily be taken to educate these people. As they are now situated, the young are growing up indolent and in many instances vicious. The moralizing influences of education would do much towards correcting their habits, and might be the means of preventing bloodshed and saving many valuable lives.

While in New York, last winter, I received a valuable donation of school books from the publishers, Messrs. Iverson, Phinney, Blakemen & Co. I have given these books to the children of the Territory. They have been highly appreciated by both parents and children, and are the means of doing much good. I would suggest that a small appropriation to procure books for free distribution would be found highly advantageous.

RAILWAYS.

Nothing will so surely and speedily effect the permanent prosperity of this Territory, as the completion of a Southern Pacific Railroad or Railroads. It would bring an increase of population to take possession of the unoccupied domain, develop its vast and varied resources and forever settle our Indian difficulties.

The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Co. already have a land grant and right of way along the Thirty-fifth Parallel to the Pacific Ocean. They are impeded in the prosecution of their work on account of the line of the road passing some three hundred and fifty miles through Indian Territory. They have so far been unable to make any satisfactory arrangements with the Indians for the right of way. The question is now before Congress, and it is to be hoped that before the adjournment of the present session, the required legislation will be obtained to insure an early completion of the road.

A bill passed the Senate, with great unanimity, last winter giving land grants and the right of way in aid of the construction of a railroad along the Thirty-second Parallel to the Pacific Ocean. It has not yet been acted upon in the House of Representatives, but it is believed it will pass that body and become a law at an early day. The company seeking this franchise are thoroughly organized, and have elected for directors able, influential and experienced men who will undoubtedly command the confidence of the people and Congress. Hopes are entertained that should land grants prove inadequate to its speedy construction, Congress will give such further assistance as may be absolutely required to secure the success of this most important international highway. The road once completed, millions now annually expended by the government in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona prosecuting Indian wars and protecting the people, will be saved, and this whole extent of country will become populous and prosperous, and instead of being an expense, would soon become a source of revenue. We have looked up in our mountains treasuries of gold and silver that will upon the completion of this work be gradually transferred to the commercial world and the Treasury of the United States. The only pre-requisites to obtain them, are safety from Indians and cheaper transportation. The freight on our supplies, machinery, &c. cost from \$240 to \$360 per ton; but few mines or enterprises of any kind will pay these high rates of transportation, and still we have now a number of profitable mines in operation. Yet there are hundreds idle that would yield great wealth upon the completion of a railroad. These statements are so obvious that I cannot be