

In the Modoc camp were sixteen men under indictments for ~~Murders~~ committed in Jackson Co. Oregon. These men never denied the <sup>e</sup>crimes for which they were indicted, but claimed they were <sup>com</sup>permitted in the avengement of crimes committed against them, for which they could get no redress. Some of these were the burning alive of an old decrepit Mother in her sto-nash, others for the killing of their wives, one for the shooting of his child in the arms of its mother, and then killing her, another for the outrage of his wife before his eyes, while he was held under guard so that he could not defend her.

An unconditional surrender of their stronghold in the rocks meant the giving up of these men to death. This the chief was not willing to do.

A place was finally agreed upon for the council, and the "Peace Council Tent" was erected midway between the Rocks and the army camp.

The next day after its erection Capt. Jack sent for Colonel Meacham to meet him in it, objecting to the presence of the soldier chief, (General Canby) and the Medicine Chief (Dr. Thomas). The objection to General Canby may be easily understood, that to Dr. Thomas arises from a superstitious notion, encouraged by their Medicine Men <sup>to</sup> the effect that, since the Great Spirit is superior to nature, and can do things beyond our comprehension, so the Medicine Man deriving his powers from him is endowed with supernatural capabilities, even to the controlling of the elements, or causing good or bad spirits to perform their bidding. They claim Ministers of the gospel as Medicine Men, and stand in awe of them. The invitation was complied with, only a private citizen accompanying him to the tent.