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all sorts of supplies swindled the government and the Indian. Indian agents were largely selected from among broken-down politicians. They were generally unsuited to their duties, and were in many instances flagrantly corrupt. A governor comes to me for a place in the government service who is fit for nothing else, I give him a place in the Indian service." The impudence of some of these men was so great that one of them, who had robbed the government of \$80,000, excused himself in a public address by saying that all the money had been spend in Dakota--the territory in which he afterward lived; as though this benefit to the locality excused his crime. The Board of Indian Commissioners, by visits to the Indian country, and by careful inspection of supplies, accompanied much in the line of reform; but they had small sympathy from the heads of the Indian Bureau, who frequently thwarted their efforts to expose and punish guilty men. Suit for libel to the amount of \$100,000 was brought against one member of the board by a dishonest timber contractor, who was trying to cheat the government out of that money, for having written to the Secretary of the Interior his opinion that the contract was fraudulent. The Secretary placed this letter-- a letter written for his information for the protection of the government-- in the hands of the contractor, thereby enabling him to bring suit. Nor was the Presi-/p.11/ dent himself willing to remove officers of the Interior Department, when such action was necessary to protect the credit of the administration. It was the corruption of American politics which hampered the efforts of the Board of Indian Commissioners for reform, and caused some of its most active and earnest members to resign their positions and thenceforth to labor for Indian civilization through the medium of churches and as individuals rather than assume an official responsibility without power to discharge it./p.12.