

authority and order over savage ignorance and revolt was unquestionably due to the presence at Standing Rock of those qualities which we are anxious to secure throughout the service: intelligence, experience, character. Mr. McLaughlin has been eighteen years or upward in the service, and is a striking and almost solitary exception to the general rule. At Cheyenne River the present agent has been but recently appointed. He has, doubtless, good qualities, but he was wholly without any previous experience in Indian affairs, and was not equal to the trying emergency which he was called on to meet. Mr. Cleveland writes: "He got afraid too soon, however, and showed poor ability when he let Kicking Bear go after having caught him and had him tried once by his Court of Indian judges in the beginning of the trouble. All might have been nipped in the bud then, apparently, and a more able man would have seen it and had the courage to act on his convictions." Pine Ridge gives a still more striking illustration of the bad effects of the spoils system of the removal, during the past administration, of an exceptionally able and successful agent, in the decay of discipline on the reservation under an inferior successor, and in the appointment of a still less suitable man under the present administration, whose flight from his post of duty and appeal for troops resulted in such disastrous consequences.

There are three simple and indubitable lessons which we should learn from the Sioux troubles:--

1st. The necessity for demanding from Congress a prompt fulfillment of all the obligations which the Government enters into with Indians, and/

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2d. Sufficient appropriations to enable the Commissioner to educate all Indian children.

3d. The complete abolition of the Spoils system in the Indian Service.