

“Some three years ago when the excitement of the Modoc war was still at burning heat, a white man murdered an Indian woman in the county of Shoshone. Instead of receiving \$50 he was arrested, tried in the United States court at Lewiston by a jury, convicted on Indian testimony and sentenced to be hanged. President Grant later refused him a pardon.

The legislature, it turned out, was credited with a resolution promulgated and published by the Owyhee Avalanche at Silver City. There was no official substance.

Records of subsequent legislatures have been searched. No scalp bills have been discovered.

Shortly after the scalping resolution of 1877 had been brought to public light and disowned by the Governor, there occurred one of the most impressive meetings between Indians and white men in the early history of Boise. Whether or not it had anything to do with an attempt to impress upon the Indians that they were not in danger of indiscriminate and casual scalping, state and city officials and Indian chiefs took intense interest.

Fifteen hundred Indians were camped on Camas prairie, 75 miles southeast of Boise. The camp included members of the Bannock, Shoshone, and Yellowstone tribes. An Irishman named James Dempsey was their interpreter in negotiations with whites.

### Who Owns Country?

Thomas E. Logan, mayor of Boise, and I. N. Coston, member of the legislative council, returned from the prairie with 14 chiefs.