

ter was then told by the Indian how badly he had been treated by a white man, and that he wished the interpreter to go and tell the white man that "the Indian meant to spoil himself." Upon being interrogated by the court as to the meaning of the message, he said that it was customary with the Choctaws, whenever they were personally maltreated or grossly insulted, to send word to the one who offered the insult or committed the injury that they meant to *spoil* themselves. He who sent the message took leave of his friends and then blew his brains out with his rifle, the Indian to whom the message was sent was bound as a man of honor, upon the receipt of the message, to kill himself also. In the present case, the interpreter said that he had much difficulty in persuading the Indian that the white man would pay no attention to his message, and that therefore he would be doing wrong to kill himself.

But we are devoting more time to this matter than is necessary. We will only say in conclusion, that more than three years ago we were informed by one of the most distinguished citizens of Illinois, that the Indians would before long be goaded by the white people into acts of open hostility. He told us, that from his own knowledge he knew that the Indians were the subjects of intolerable oppression, and detailed to us the particulars of an interview which he had with some of the chiefs, who had sent for him to come into their nation and counsel them how to act in their distresses. The speech which was made to him by an old chief whom he had known in better days, was of the most affecting character, and prophesied, almost to the letter, the transactions which have since occurred.

As you approach the scene of the late war you will hear of barbarities to which the flogging of the son of Black Hawk was most merciful. We should like to see an answer to the following query made in the *St. Louis Times*, of the 21st May, by a writer who takes the signature of "F," and whose whole communication displays a minute knowledge of the occurrences of the Indian campaigns:

"I should like to know, for information sake, who it was that employed a party of Sioux Indians to follow sixty or