

pany's agent, for the site of a military post. It was at one time the winter quarters of many trappers and hunters. It is also noted as being the place where several treaties have been made between the savages and whites—many of the former living around the fort, fed by Government, and stealing its stock in return. The reservation, declared by the President on the 28th of June, 1869, consists of 54 square miles. It is situated 89 miles from Cheyenne—the nearest railroad station—on the left bank of the Laramie, about two miles from its junction with the North Platte, and on the Overland road to Oregon and California. Latitude 42 deg. 12 min. 38 sec.; longitude 104 deg. 31 min. 26 sec.

FORT FETTERMAN—This post was named in honor of Brevet Lieutenant. Col. Wm J Fetterman, Captain 18th Infantry, killed at the Fort Phil. Kearny massacre, December 21st, 1866; established July 19th, 1864, by four companies of the Fourth Infantry, under command of Brevet Colonel William McE. Dey, Major Fourth Infantry. It is situated at the mouth of La Poeele Creek, on the south side of the North Platte River, 135 miles from Cheyenne, 90 miles south of Fort Reno, and 70 miles northwesterly from Fort Laramie; latitude 42 deg. 49 min. 08 sec., longitude 105 deg. 27 min. 03 sec. The reservation of sixty square miles was declared June 28th, 1869. Cheyenne is the nearest railroad station. The regular conveyance from Cheyenne to the Fort is by Government mail ambulance and Black Hills stages.

FORT CASPER—was situated on the North Platte River, at what was known as "Old Platte Bridge," on the Overland road to California and Oregon, 55 miles north of Fort Fetterman; was built during the late war; re-built by the 18th Infantry in 1866, and abandoned in 1867. Its garrison, munitions of war, etc., were transferred to Fort Fetterman. The bridge across the Platte at this place cost \$65,000—a wooden structure, which was destroyed by the Indians shortly after the abandonment of the post.

FORT RENO—was established during the war by General E. P. Connor, for the protection of the Powder River country. It was situated on the Powder River, 225 miles from Cheyenne, 90 miles from Fort Fetterman, and 65 miles from Fort Phil. Kearny. It was re-built in 1866 by the 18th Infantry, and abandoned in July, 1868.

FORT PHIL. KEARNY—was established July, 1866, by four companies of the 18th Infantry, under command of Colonel H. B. Carrington, 18th Infantry. This post was situated 290 miles north of Cheyenne, in the very heart of the hunting grounds of the northern Indians, and hence the trouble the troops had with the Indians in establishing it. Near this post is where the great massacre took place in 1866. It was abandoned in July, 1868.

FORT C. F. SMITH—was established in 1866, by Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel N. C. Kinney, Captain 18th Infantry, and two companies of that regiment. It was at the foot of the Big Horn Mountain, on the Big Horn River, 90 miles from Fort Phil. Kearny, and 380 from Cheyenne. It was abandoned in July, 1868.

Here the thoughtful will note, that the Government established four forts in this northern Powder River country, for the protection of the white man as against the Indian. To the occupancy of the country the Indians protested, and the Government acceded, and made a treaty, yielding up possession of the whole country north of the North Platte River—the Black Hills *included*—and abandoned the posts and the country to the Indians. When gold was discovered in this—*acknowledged*—Indian country, and the white man commenced to invade it—in search of gold—the Government attempted to prevent their trespassing, and to keep faith with the Indians and Gen. Sheridan issued his orders against this invasion, and sent soldiers to arrest all parties in the "Hills," and prevent others from going to them. Finally, the Government "winked" at emigration which it could not, or would not prevent. What see we now? The white man has *taken* the Indian's country, that our Government has acknowledged belonged to the latter, has *driven* the Indians out, beggars as they are, with only the bread that the Government chooses to toss to them. We are no "Indian lover," but, if the Government had a right to build these posts, they should never have abandoned them; having abandoned them, and treated with the Indian, as an equal, where is our boasted "civilization," when, though the lands do contain gold, we *take* them without a "thank you," as the elephant would crush a toad, Does *might* make *right*?

BLACK HILLS GOLD MINES—For many years vague reports have been in circula-