

(6)

Writing about forty-five years ago John Fiske, in his ~~"Beginnings"~~ "The Beginnings of New England" in referring to the destruction of the Pequots says, "As a matter of practical policy the annihilation of the Pequots can be condemned only by those who read history so incorrectly as to suppose that savages, whose business is to torture and slay, can always be dealt with according to the methods in use between civilized peoples."

Eight years after the battle of the Washita, General Custer and his command were wiped out in the massacre of The Little Big Horn.

In 1878 Chief Dull Knife, heading a band of Cheyennes broke away from their reservation in Indian Territory, where Col. John D. Miles of Lawrence was agent, and made their way clear across the state and back to their old home in the north. This was the last Indian Raid in Kansas, but there were serious Indian disturbances as late as 1891 in South Dakota, and a minor disturbance at Leech Lake, Minn., in 1898.

~~Now~~ This was the setting when the government made an about face and began treating the Indians as human beings, with souls, and with possibilities for advancement. Again I ask, what was the cause of the change? The answer is my own, and I have never heard it advanced by another.

It is my firm opinion the cause of the Indian was won in the Civil War when the ^{people} ~~nation~~ believed with Lincoln that ^{the nation} ~~it~~ could not longer endure half slave and half free. As long as there were four millions of slaves in the country, the masters of whom controlled them body and soul, ~~the~~ the unfair attitude of the government to the Indians could be condoned, but after thousands of lives had been lost and billions spent to ~~free~~ free the slaves and maintain the unity of the nation, it became abhorrent to have the Indian popu-