

Dreamers

Toledo, Denton County, Oregon, August 13, 1878

...The dreamers who have at times seemed to exercise considerable influence over the wildest of the Indians have about lost their power over them. Comparatively few believe in their old medicine men and this class and their former chiefs are the poorest of the people now.

In fact, the Indians are fast putting away their old customs and adopting the customs of the whites. Very little hunting or fishing is done by them. Could the present policy be continued for a few years more and the agency furnished with means necessary to keep the Indians at work and to properly instruct and educate the children, the Indian problem would be solved so far as the Indians of Siletz are concerned, they would be able to take care of themselves..

in relation to the transfer of the Indians of this reserve to the Grand Ronde Agency of which there has been so much said in and out of Congress I would simply ask if after expenditure of several thousand dollars to build mills for the benefit of the 1,085 Indians belonging here ~~Good~~ just when these mills are completed and running in order, the Indians making every effort in their power to make progress for themselves would it be just to even ask them to remove to another country?

For more than twenty years the government, through their agents, has been promising them ~~good~~ security in their homes and during the same time their original reserve has melted away from a

length of ~~600~~ 120 miles by an average width of 18 miles, containing 1,382,000 acres to a length of 24 miles and an average ~~width~~ width of 15 miles containing 223,000 acres. Not more than 23,000 acres may be termed agricultural land, the remainder being rugged mountains. They were promised when they gave up their original lands that they should be permanently located here and not until 1,860,000

acres of this reserve was taken away from them did Congress pass a law looking to the permanency of the reserve. When this law was passed and approved by the President it was hoped that the Indians were permanently secured in the possession of their lands. Now to remove them again would be simply legalized robbery.

William Bagley, U.S.

Indian agent.

Smohalla..

Mooney..

As with men, so it is with nations. The lost paradise is the world's dreamland of youth. What tribe or people has not had its golden age, before Pandora's box was loosed, when women were nymphs and dryads and men were gods and heroes. And when the race lies crushed and groaning beneath an alien yoke, how natural is the dream of a redeemer ..an arthur who shall return from exile to awake from some long sleep to drive out the usurper and win back for his people what they have lost.

The hope becomes a faith and the faith becomes the creed of priests and prophets until the hero is a god and the dream a religion, looking to some great miracle of nature for its culmination and accomplishment.

in 1752 the Lenape chiefs sent to the British agent the interrogatory: "The English claim all on one side of the river, the French claim all on the other--where is the land of the Indians?" (Bancroft.)

In 1762 appeared a prophet among the Delawares at Tuscarawas, on the Muskingum, who preached a union of all the red tribes and a return to the old Indian life, which he declared to be the divine command as revealed to himself in a wonderful vision.

..the religious ferment produced by the exhortations of the Delaware prophet spread rapidly from tribe to tribe until under the guidance of the master mind of the celebrated chief, Pontiac, it took shape in a grand confederacy of all the northwestern tribes to oppose the further progress of the English.....an idea afterward taken up and carried almost to successful accomplishment by the great Tecumtha. (called council at 00 near Detroit in April, 1763)

..the contest of savagery against civilization has but one ending and the scene closes with the death of Pontiac, a broken-spirited wanderer, cut down at last by a hired assassin of his own race

40 years later and the cross of St George erected in the place of the Lilies of France, had been supplanted by the flag of the young republic.

Laulewasikaw..arose among the Shawano as prophet in November, 1805 revealed relation with Master of Life in Ohio..

..later changed name to ~~Tenskwatawa~~ Tenskwatawa, the Open Door..

by some means learned that an eclipse of the sun was to take place in the summer of 1806 ..as time drew near called scoffers and announced that on certain day he would prove to them his supernatural authority by causing the sun to become dark...fame spread, apostles began to carry his revelations to the remotest tribes.

..a religion which found adherents alike in the everglades of Florida and on the plains of the Saskatchewan must necessarily have undergone local modifications...

Catlin found it spread to the Blackfeet thirty years later..among the prairie tribes.

With death of Tecumtha, the confederacy of the northwestern tribes fell to pieces and on the closing of the war of 1812 the government inaugurated a series of treaties, resulting within twenty years in the removal of almost every tribe beyond the Mississippi and the appropriation of their former country by the whites.

Kanakuk of the Kickapoo...1827. meetings held on Sunday..in 1831.

About 1852 or 53 appeared on Turkey River, Iowa a prophet known as Pa'theske, or Long Nose, a new dance, to perform at intervals for a whole year at end of time in spring take warpath against their enemy the Sioux and would reap rich harvest of scalps...continued, then prophet announced that he had received new revelation forbidding expedition. He died few years later on visit to Wash with delegation of his tribe, looked upon as retribution.

prediction of destruction of world..cycle myths are general among Indians and primitive tribes. The Arapaho informed author that we are now living in the sixth cycle and that the final catastrophe will take place at the close of the seventh.

About 1870 another prophet among the Paiute in Nevada..  
 1869 to 70, about 60 miles from south of Virginia City, Nevada  
 his son  
 not far from Walker River reservation.. said his father's name was  
 Tavibo or White Man .. used to have visions and was invulnerable..  
 doctrines he started, son developed and promulgated  
 into the present messiah religion.

He was visited by Indians from Oregon and Idaho.....  
 and his teachings made their influence felt among the Bannock and Shoshoni  
 as well as among all the scattered bands of Paiute to whom he  
 continued to preach until his death a year or two later.

that earth would swallow up all and after three days Indians would  
 be resurrected.. whites perish..

in 1872 preacher among Paiute.. on Walker Lake reserve, Nevada..  
 Waugh-zee-waugh-her .. went into trance to see great spirit..

Indians gathered around to see son that was to guide his

spirit back to his body.. Oregon and Idaho Indians and Indians from  
 other places came to investigate..

....the name Tavibo refers to the east, or place where the sun, tabi  
 rises. By the cognate Shoshoni and Comanche the white were called Taivo.

;....various other prophets of more or less local celebrity have  
 arisen from time to time among the tribes and the resurrection of  
 the dead and the return of the olden times have usually figured  
 prominently in their prophecies.. In fact this idea has probably been  
 the day-dream of every Indian medicine man since the white first landed  
 in America. Most of these, however, have been unknown to fame, outside  
 of their own narrow circles except where chance dictated deliberate  
 purpose has given a warlike meaning to their teachings and made them the  
 subjects of official notice.