

THE ANDOVER NEWS

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NO. 41.

Don't Forget that T. McTIGHE
has a LARGE STOCK OF GOODS
and is selling LOW FOR CASH.

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Loan and Real Estate Agency.
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and all the new shades and styles of

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A fine line of Ladies' Furnishing Goods.

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LAND OF THE DAKOTAS.

A Baltimore Woman's Graphic Description of Life Among the Indians.

Mrs. Abbie Thayer is visiting friends in this city during her vacation from government work in the "land of the Dakotas." She is head teacher in one of the government Indian schools in the Rosebud agency. Miles away from any white settlement, she has the charge of a camp of 100 Indians, her protecting police being savages also. Her duty is to look after the education, food, clothing and general furnishings of the entire camp. She has been very successful in her work, and her graphic descriptions of her experiences are exceedingly interesting.

The Indians are those known as the "Sioux," who were sent from Minnesota years ago to their present reservations in Dakota. They adhere to their ancestral customs, except so far as they can be individually persuaded to "go on the white man's road." The more fortunate among them live in wood or canvas "teepees" or tents, an entire family occupying the one room, which serves for all purposes, and sleeping on the ground floor. In fact, the word ground is also the word for bed, as they are generally unaccustomed to sleep on anything else. A chair, when they have one, is rather a matter of ornament than use. The dress of a squaw is, to begin with, a single garment, which after being put on is never taken off. When a new garment is received from the government it is put on over the old one, and so on with subsequent additions until the inner one drops off. Half a dozen dresses are sometimes worn over each other in this way, a squaw's wardrobe and wealth being almost literally "on her back." The dresses are loose fitting, but drawn together at the waist by a leather girdle. They have no trouble.

The ears of both sexes are fairly ridged with holes as large as a pencil, from which hang many ornaments made of brass and bone. Both sexes wear the hair long, plaited and heavily ornamented in all dressed regalia. The Indians are unadorned and wearing simple dress, with a few large bones set free about the body. Their ornaments and adorne-ments are made with bits of bone, feathers, hair, beads, and shells.

Many of the Indians are very comely indeed, but their appetites are enormous. They eat raw meat, and their diet consists mainly of dried venison, bear, elk, deer, and moose.

The great Kennebec Valley bridge was originally built by hand, and has been strengthened and enlarged at the expense of the Indians, who paid their high labor well, and obtained

an excellent road.

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