

**PLOUGHED UNDER:
THE STORY OF AN
INDIAN CHIEF**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649372485

Ploughed under: the story of an Indian Chief by Wm. J. Harsha & Inshta Theamba

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

WM. J. HARSHA & INSHTA THEAMBA

**PLOUGHED UNDER:
THE STORY OF AN
INDIAN CHIEF**

PLOUGHED UNDER

The Story of an Indian Chief

TOLD BY HIMSELF

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

By INSHTA THEAMBA

(BRIGHT EYES)



NEW YORK:
FORDS, HOWARD, & HULBERT.
1881.



PS
1819
H8P56

COPYRIGHT, 1981.
FORDS, HOWARD, & HULBERT.

21536

8/7/1910



INTRODUCTION.

BY INSHTA THEAMBA.

(*"Bright Eyes."*)

THE white people have tried to solve the "Indian Question" by commencing with the proposition that the Indian is different from all other human beings.

With some he is a peculiar being, surrounded by a halo of romance, who has to be set apart on a reservation as something sacred, who has to be fed, clothed, and taken care of by a guardian or agent, by whom he is not to be allowed to come in contact with his conquerors lest it might degrade him; his conquerors being a people who hold their civilization above that of all others on the earth, because of their perfect freedom and liberty. "The contact of peoples is the best of all education." And this the ward is denied.

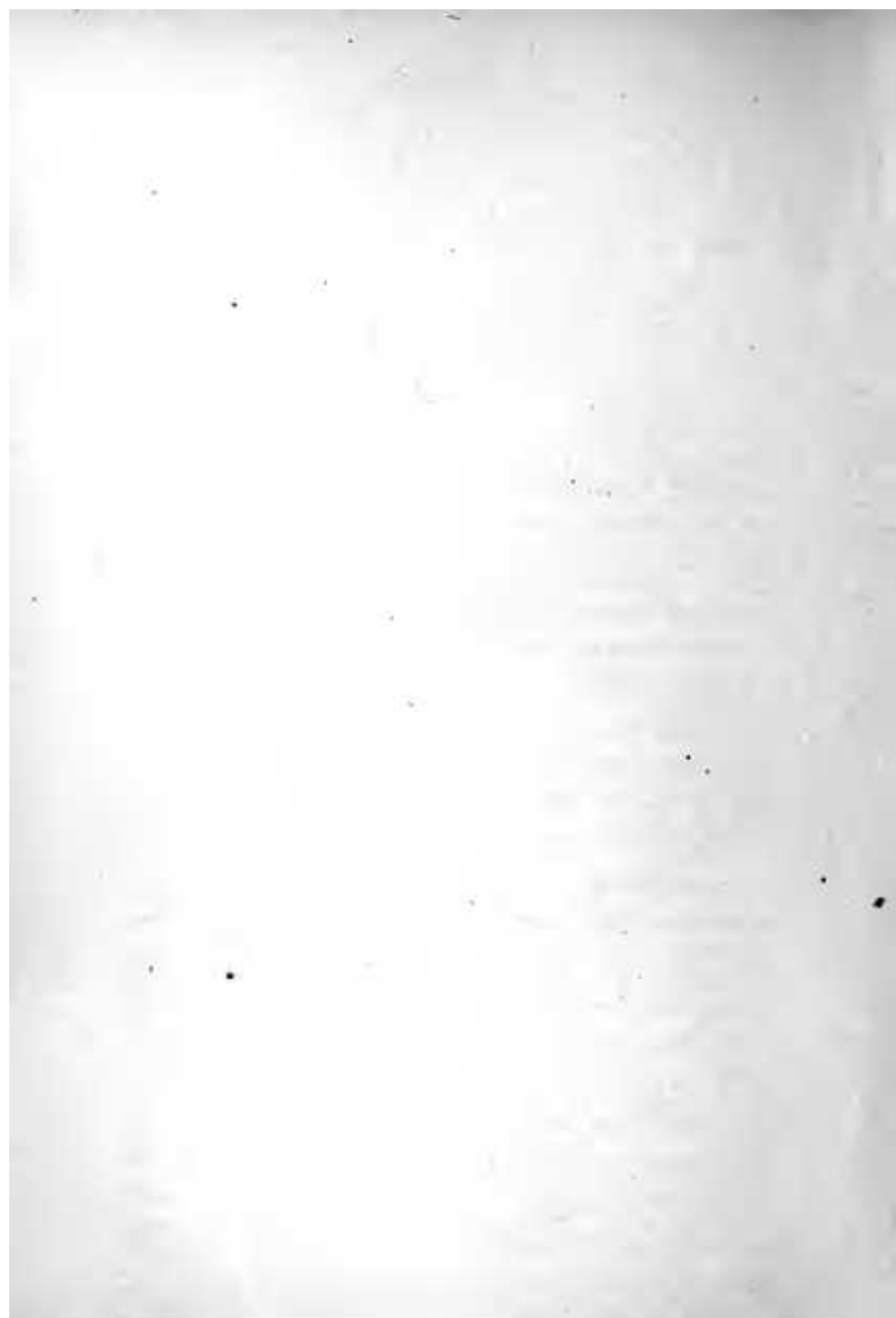
With others again he is a savage, a sort of monster without any heart or soul or mind, but whose whole being is full of hatred, ferocity, and blood-thirstiness. They suppose him to have no family affections, no love for his home, none of the sensitive feelings that all other human beings presumably have. This class demand his extermination.

Under the shelter of the conflicting laws imposed by these two extreme views, the clever operators of the Indian Ring—not caring what he is, but looking on him for what he has, and the opportunities he affords, as legitimate prey—pounce on him and use him as a means of obtaining contracts, removals, land speculations, and appropriations which are to be stolen. They tear him from his home, disregarding all the rights of his manhood.

Allow an Indian to suggest that the solution of the vexed "Indian Question" is *Citizenship*, with all its attending duties and responsibilities, as well as the privileges of protection under the law, by which the Indian could appeal to the courts, when deprived of life, liberty, or property, as every citizen can, and would be allowed the opportunity to make something of himself, in common with every other citizen. If it were not for the lands which the Indian holds, he would have been a citizen long before the negro; and in this respect his lands have been a curse to him rather than a blessing. But for them, he would have been insignificant in the eyes of this powerful and wealthy nation, and allowed to live in peace and quietness, without attracting the birds of prey forever hovering over the helpless; then his citizenship would have protected him, as it does any other ordinary human being. As a "ward," or extraordinary being, if he is accused of committing a crime, this serves as a pretext of war for his extermination, and his father, mother, sister, brother, wife, or people are involved in one common ruin; while if he were

simply a citizen, he would be individually arrested by the sheriff, and tried in court, and either protected in his innocence or convicted and punished in his guilt. The Indian, as a "ward," or extraordinary being, affords employment to about ten thousand employes in the Indian Bureau, with all the salaries attached, as well as innumerable contractors, freighters, and land speculators. He requires also, periodically, immense appropriations to move him from place to place. Imagine a company of Irish immigrants requiring from Congress an appropriation to move them from one part of the country to another! No wonder that the powers-that-be refuse to recognize the Indian as an ordinary human being, but insist that he be taken care of and "protected" by the decisions of the Indian Bureau. In this "land of freedom and liberty" an Indian has to get the permission of an agent before he can either step off his reservation or allow any civilization to enter it; and this, under heavy penalty for disobedience. In this land, where the boast is made that all men are "equal before the law," the Indian cannot sue in the courts for his life, liberty, or property, because, forsooth, the Indian is not a "person," as the learned attorney employed by a Secretary of the Interior argued for five hours, when an Indian appealed to the writ of *habeas corpus* for his liberty.

The key to this complicated problem is, simply, To recognize the Indian as a person and a citizen, give him a title to his lands, and place him within the jurisdiction of the courts, *as an individual*. It is absurd for a great government like this to say that it



CONTENTS.

CHAP.	PAGE.
I. THE FIRST PUZZLE, - - - - -	11
II. ON THE PRAIRIE, - - - - -	18
III. AN INDIAN BATTLE, - - - - -	27
IV. THE BUFFALO HUNT, - - - - -	35
V. THE ARRIVAL OF GRAY COAT, - - - - -	42
VI. A CHAPTER OF LOVE, - - - - -	57
VII. THE WINNING OF A NAME, - - - - -	66
VIII. BITTER COUNSEL, - - - - -	76
IX. MA-SHÁN! HOME! - - - - -	86
X. A VAIN SACRIFICE, - - - - -	97
XI. AN EMPTY SUCCESS, - - - - -	105
XII. BLINDFOLDED JUSTICE, - - - - -	119
XIII. KIND FACE AND GRAY COAT, - - - - -	130
XIV. THE BRIDAL EVE, - - - - -	152
XV. BLOOD-HOUNDS AND LUNACY, - - - - -	170
XVI. LITTLE SWALLOW TAKES THE TRAIL, - - - - -	185
XVII. THE PERIL OF PRAIRIE FLOWER, - - - - -	202
XVIII. RETURNING REASON, - - - - -	216
XIX. CHOPPING LOGIC, - - - - -	227
XX. PLOUGHED UNDER, - - - - -	239
XXI. THE TWO VOICES, - - - - -	259