

LATER FROM YREKA.

Indian Murder and Pursuit by the Whites—The Yreka Affair.

We have received an extra of the *Yreka Union* dated Tuesday, July 8th, 10 A. M. From it we copy the following information. The extra makes no allusion to the excitement which followed the killing of the miner by the Deputy Sheriff at that place, nor to any acts of violence against the editor of that paper, subsequent to the issuance of the extra of Sunday, the 6th. From this fact, as seems from an explanation which appears in the *San Francisco Bulletin* of Saturday, made by Mr. Coryell, from whom we derived our information through Mr. Gridley, we infer that the excitement in Yreka was not prolonged beyond Saturday night or Sunday morning. Mr. Coryell informs the *Bulletin* that the information communicated to us was derived from rumor before he left Yreka; and it is possible it may have been somewhat exaggerated. Mr. Coryell stopped but fifteen minutes in Sacramento on his way to Stockton, and his information was obtained by us from his friend Mr. Gridley—with whom we had but a brief conversation. Below we give the substance of the extra of July 8th:

We have just been informed by the Rev. Mr. Stratton, who last night arrived from Jacksonville, that an intense excitement prevailed in Rogue River Valley, on Sunday, in consequence of word having arrived that a packer had been shot that morning near the summit of Siskiyou mountain, by the Indians. It appears that Messrs. Taylor & McDermit, in company with a hired man, started to cross Siskiyou mountain for Jacksonville with their pack train of twenty-five mules, and upon arriving at the point some forty rods beyond the summit, the scene of the "ox team tragedy," they were fired upon by a party of Indians concealed in the brush at the side of the road. One ball took effect upon the hired man, killing him instantly—the ball entering underneath the right arm and coming out under the left. Taylor & McDermit then fled down the mountain.

A party of about twenty men, from the upper part of Rogue River Valley, started immediately in pursuit. Upon returning to the scene of the murder, they found the body of deceased, which had been dragged about sixty rods down the mountain by the feet, the effect of which was to render it a most hideous sight to behold. They also found three mules that had been killed. Thirteen were driven off and nine recovered. Mr. Stratton has also shown us a couple of arrows which were extracted from the dead animals; they are Tule Lake arrows and are such as are used by the Modoc tribe. This circumstance, connected with the fact that the Indians fled towards Klamath Lake, would seem to settle the question as to what tribe did the deed.

The pursuing party, while following on the trail of the murderers, found a newly shod gray horse, saddled and bridled. The inference is that these same Indians have murdered the rider.

Thus it seems that as the war closes in Oregon it commences in our own immediate vicinity.

The Modoc tribe, which has, heretofore, during the war in Oregon, maintained, as is supposed, neutral grounds, are now, without a doubt, in arms against us, and there is no telling after this successful result of their first effort, what they may next contemplate doing. We deem our citizens in Shasta Valley in eminent peril. Generals Cosby and Colton, can no steps be taken, can no effort be made to chastise these treacherous devils?

Nothing has been heard as yet from the party in pursuit; it is composed, however, of sterling men, and it is confidently believed that they will give a good account of themselves when they return.

Daily Butte Record

8-14-1856

INDIAN FIGHT.—A fight came off last Tuesday about two miles down the river on the opposite side. It was between a tribe who have their rancherie down the river, and a tribe from the West Branch. The origin of the fight we did not learn. It was witnessed by several white men, who say they sent the arrows into each others ranks with savage earnestness. As far as could be ascertained, there were two killed and several wounded.

Butte Record

8-16-1856

INDIAN SPORTS.—These children of the forest are becoming quite numerous of late in our city, and seem delighted with the marks of progress and civilization. They pick up and wear the thrown off duds that lay about the clothing stores. They attracted a great number of citizens yesterday to witness their shooting at small coin, stuck in the top of a stick, which they won in case they hit it. They are very expert in the use of the bow and arrow, and on this occasion bagged several monies.

Daily Butte Record 8-22-1856

An Indian Fight.

A fight among the red men of the forest took place on Monday last, on the open Prairie six miles from Chico. The battle was fought between the tribe known as the Bidwell Indians and a tribe that belong across the river. It seems to be a periodical affair with these savages. They fought on the appointed day and at the spot named, and with as much system and regularity as their more civilized brethren. The struggle was carried on for several hours, and with a savage fierceness equal to any contest that has been witnessed for a long time.

There is a peculiarity in this mode of warfare, that we presume is not generally known. It is that when in the heat of a conflict—arrows flying as thick as hail—and the air is rent with the hideous war cry—the little children, by mutual consent, are sent into the ranks of the enemy to pick up the poisonous bearded arrows that have missed their mark, and return them to the quiver of the hostile parent, to be again sent whizzing into the enemy's ranks.

There were some ten or twelve seriously wounded, and two killed. One of the Bidwell tribe, a fine stout warrior, was pierced in the breast by an arrow to the depth of nine inches. The point was poisonous, and the probability is that he would die from its effects.

Daily Butte Record

8-27-1856

Shooting Affray at Nawee Lackee.

The Marysville *Express* contains the following particulars of a shooting affray, which occurred at this Reservation on the 17th inst. It appears that about the 20th of July, a man named Cade brought to and left at the Reservation an Indian squaw, who it appears had been living with a man named Clark, near Stoney creek. She desired to remain on the Reserve, as she said she had been badly treated and beaten while there. She was told to remain and that she would be protected.

On Sunday, the 17th, information was received by Mr. Stevenson, that Clark was in the neighborhood, with the avowed intention of carrying off this same squaw. About midnight, an Indian came up and told Stevenson that two white men were in the Rancheria hunting squaws, &c. Stevenson went down and found Clark's horse near a tree, passing a few yards, he met Clark and said, "Mr. Clark, I am looking for you, and want you to go to the office with me." Clark answered that he would and could explain why he was there, and just as they got to where Clark's horse was, Clark started on one side with a spring, and seizing his pistol, (a Navy six shooter) which was hung to his saddle, and said, "Stevenson, you must give me my squaw, or I shall kill you where you stand;" fired, the ball passing through Stevenson's thigh. Stevenson, who was wrapped in a blanket, immediately cleared his arms, and before Clark could fire a second time, closed with him, and wrenching the pistol from him, knocked him senseless. By this time several of the employees were on the ground. Clark was carried to the house and ironed, and will be tried on two charges, Kidnapping and Assault with intent to commit murder.

W. MARTIN, Commissary Reserve.

Oct 25, 1856

Butte Record.

OROVILLE, BUTTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1856.

THE WHITE DEER SKIN DANCE.—The past fortnight, says the *Shasta Courier*, the Indians of Klamath county have been holding a grand fandango at the mouth of Trinity river, and from Happy Camp to the Reservation near the ocean. Every rancheria has been fully represented.

It is estimated that including squaws and papooses, at least one thousand natives participated in the festivities.

This celebration, which is held annually, is known as the dance of the "white deer skin," and is regarded as by far the most important in their social calendar. The white deer is very rarely seen in California, and so rarely prized are they by the Indians, that the richest of them will readily barter his favorite squaw, or his most valuable effects for a single skin. At the present celebration there were five skins conspicuously exhibited, three of which were owned by a Mowimo Cræsus, who appeared to be idolized by his less fortunate chiefs — The dancing, feasting and frolicking exceeding all bounds, and came near resulting in a serious collision between the "Salmon" and "Red Cap" factions who have for years entertained a grudge against each other. The hatchet, however, was not quite dug up and the festivities closed without recourse to arms.

Butte Record 11-22-1856

SALMON FISHING AMONG THE INDIANS.—

The Mariposa Gazette says that the Indians upon the South Fork and upper parts of the main Merced river are much dissatisfied at the failure of their Salmon fishing, which is caused by one or two dams on the lower part of the river. Large quantities of salmon are annually killed by these Indians, and being prepared in their own manner, form the staple article of food during the winter.

SALMON.—The Shasta Republican says that this being the season during which the Indians take the salmon for winter consumption, they are now caught in large quantities, and are fat and healthy. The Rancherias are numerous along the banks of the Sacramento, and all are busy curing their fish.

SOME steps are being taken toward the removal of the Yuba Indians to the Nomee Sackee Reservation, and we hope those living hereabouts may be attended to very shortly. A more miserable race of beings can hardly be imagined than the Indians of this neighborhood.— Now that they are induced to quit their old habits of living together in rancherias and gaining a subsistence by hunting and fishing, and depend in a great measure upon the charities of the whites for food and shelter, they are not only rendering themselves miserable but are an eyesore to the community in which they choose to locate, and like other paupers, should be provided with a home apart from the entire world, out of harm's way and beyond the reach of want. We hope Col. Henly will attend to these poor creatures before the severe weather commences, and renders their removal impracticable until spring sets in. Some persons about here make a practice of furnishing the Indians with spirits, and as the red man will drink as long as the white man will sell it to him, they had better be removed from these dangers of civilization at as early a period as possible.

Butte Record Nov 29, 1856

A VILLAINOUS OUTRAGE.—We saw on Sunday afternoon, a poor Indian boy apparently about ten years of age, so drunk as to be almost unable to walk. Judge Jones had him in charge when we saw him, and said he had learned from the boy, who speaks English, that he had obtained the liquor from a Chinamen. Perhaps Chinamen know no better than to sell spirits to Indians, but they should be prosecuted, nevertheless, as should every one else who is guilty of doing so.

INDIAN BATTLE.—It is said that the Yuba and Digger Indians had a fight on Friday, Nov. 21st, near the Empire Ranch, in Yuba county.

If we have taken any articles from the *Journal* without acknowledging the source, we apologise, and take it all back, but if we have ever clipped anything from the *Union* feloniously, we don't care a snap, for that sheet appropriates whole articles from our columns, and we know of no better plan than to steal in our turn, just to get even.