

SIMPSON, Billy (Indian)
Weekly Oroville Register

3-1-1900

AN INDIAN MURDERED.

**The Victim's Head Beaten
to a Pulp.**

**Robbery was Undoubtedly the Motive
as the Pockets Had Been
Rifled.**

The following account of a horrible murder at Chico is taken from last evening's Mercury:

CHICO, Feb 28—A horrible murder was committed last night in the Bidwell grounds an Indian named Billy Simpson, being the victim.

The body of the murdered man was found about 6:30 this morning by Fred Peterson, who is employed as gardener in the Bidwell grounds. It was lying in a clump of bushes where it had evidently been carried after the murder was committed. Tracks indicated that two men carried the body.

The pockets were turned wrong side out and had evidently been rifled and robbery was undoubtedly the motive. The head was beaten to a pulp.

The last seen of Simpson alive was at 8 o'clock last night when he told an Indian boy in Chico that he was going home. It is supposed that he was assaulted shortly after that time.

About 8:30 p. m., a man, apparently drunk, called at the back door of the Bidwell mansion and asked to see the General. He was sent away and shortly afterward a dog kept there barked furiously and ran in the direction where the body was found this morning.

Sheriff Wilson and local deputies are here making a close study of the case.

The murdered man was a peaceable Indian, industrious and thrifty. He usually carried a little money, from ten to twenty dollars, with him. Drs Jackson and Burke performed an autopsy today.

INDIANS GET LIFE SENTENCE

Steve Thompson and John Richards in Court Today

BOTH PLEAD GUILTY.

They Escape the Death Penalty for Which They May Well be Thankful— Richards Was a "Good" Boy.

In the Superior court this morning was witnessed the unusual spectacle of two men pleading guilty to a charge, the punishment for which might be death. Steve Thompson and John Richards, the Indian murderers of Indian Billy Simpson were in court to plead, and both, when asked to plead guilty or not guilty, stood up and said, "guilty," and they were not kept long in ignorance of what their punishment will be, for in less than an hour after court convened, testimony had been taken, and both were sentenced to imprisonment in the States Prison at San Quentin for the period of their natural lives. After the defendants plead guilty testimony was taken for the purpose of corroborating their testimony and of showing the character of the men.

Sheriff Wilson testified to the circumstances of the crime, the arrests and subsequent confessions made to him by the two defendants. He said he early came to the conclusion that the crime had been committed by Indians, and by tracing the movements of all the Indians who were in town the night of the murder, soon had reason to suspect these two.

Mrs. Bidwell next gave testimony regarding the character of Richards. She had known him since he came to the Rancharia, at about the age of 5 years, and he was always a good boy, one of the "pets," an industrious youth, a regular attendant at services in the chapel, and considered trustworthy in every way. His reputation for peace and quiet was excellent. Mrs. Bidwell explained the manner in which the Indians are under her supervision and instruction and her intimate acquaintance with them. Of Thompson she knew little, and she considered him hopelessly ignorant.

Oroville Mercury

3-19-1900

Mrs. Garrison of Chico Vecino followed, her testimony corroborating that of Mrs. Bidwell.

The defense placed Thompson on the stand first. He grinned as he took the stand, the grin staying with him during the whole of the brief time he was there. He was asked if he had killed Simpson and replied that he did. He said he had drank half a dollar's worth of whisky just prior to the killing. This statement stayed a new line of inquiry. Judge Gray wanted to know where he got the whisky. He said a halfbreed, named Clemens secured it for him. At this point Mrs. Bidwell explained that Clemens lives at a hotel in Chico and considers himself a white man,

Richards was placed upon the stand and questioned. He, too, claimed to have been drinking. Two drinks of Chico whisky and a beer had been sufficient to nerve him up to the killing point. His mother, Mrs. Harriet Young, gave testimony as to the previous good character of her boy. The mother was visibly affected as she told how good her boy had been and how kind to her. She said she had warned him not to keep company with Thompson.

The testimony being concluded, A. F. Jones, Assistant District Attorney, who conducted the case for the people, addressed the court briefly and J. M. McGee, who had been appointed to defend the men addressed the court in their behalf, asking the court to consider the ignorance of one, the youth of the other and the fact that whisky arouses the latent savagery of the Indian. He asked that justice be tempered with mercy and that the death sentence be not influenced.

Time for passing sentence being waived Judge Gray ordered the men to stand up, and in a few words passed sentence upon them; Sheriff Wilson will take them to San Quentin tomorrow.

Several Indians occupied seats with defendants inside the rail during the proceedings.

Weekly Oroville Register

8-9-1900

Indian Children in School.

The native or Indian children of this county are taking advantage of the education that can be obtained in our common schools. They are apt, bright and attentive pupils and, as a rule, are as docile as any children in the county. At the Chino Mills school about one-half of the children are either of full or part Indian blood, there are six or seven in the Mooretown school and of the eleven pupils in the Lumpkin school the greater portion are either full-blood Indians or have Indian blood in their veins. We are glad to see them take every opportunity for gaining an education.

Indian Waldo

Oroville Mercury

March 4, 1901

FATAL FRACAS NEAR CHEROKEE.

Dick Johnson's Knife Does
Terrible Execution.

INDIAN WALDO KILLED.

Salvador Blanco Likely to Die and
Two More Wounded is the
Record of the Row.

Special to the MERCURY.

CHEROKEE, March 4.—Seven or eight men had a celebration and a big time yesterday afternoon at Joe Brown's cabin, one mile from Cherokee on the Yankee Hill road, and, as a result, Waldo Waldo is now a "good Indian," Salvador Blanco, a native of Chili, is likely to die and both Billy Parker, a half-breed Indian, and Joe Brown, a full blood, are badly cut.

The knife which did such murderous execution was wielded by Dick Johnson, a half-breed Indian, who was himself badly beaten by a chair in the hands of Billy Parker.

According to the story told by Brown's squaw, who was a witness to the affray from start to finish, the men were playing the grass game outside the house when Johnson, who did not understand the game very well, said he would go inside and play cards with the women.

After a time Waldo came in and told Johnson to quit playing with the women, and a quarrel ensued. Brown tried to stop the row and Johnson attacked him. The other Indian made an effort to restrain Johnson and the knife work followed. Johnson was finally subdued by a blow on the head with a chair, but not until Waldo was fatally stabbed and Salvador Blanco probably fatally cut, and both Brown and Parker had received serious wounds.

After the affray, which occurred about 4:30 p. m., Johnson went to the house of Justice of the Peace Wm. Thunen and told that he had been beaten with a chair by Billy Parker, a story which was fully confirmed by the gory appearance of his head. He told where Parker could be found, and added, "Mr. Thunen may want me; if he does, I am willing to go, but I want my wife to go with me."

Justice Thunen was away but Constable Johnson of Cherokee investigated the affair and placed Johnson under arrest and took him to Oroville, Johnson's wife and child accompany him.

Coroner Bullington arrived this morning and began holding an inquest at 11 a. m. District Attorney Sproul is expected this afternoon, and the inquest will proceed after his arrival. Photographer Phares is taking pictures of the cabin for the use of the officers.

BROWN, Joe

Oroville Mercury

March 6, 1901

BROWN IS DEAD.

Dick Johnson is a Double Murderer.

Joe Brown, the Indian who was badly cut by Dick Johnson on Sunday afternoon, in the row near Cherokee, died of his wounds. Brown was cut in the abdomen, making an ugly wound which has been well nigh hopeless from the first.

Prior to his death, Brown made a statement to to Wm. Thunen, Justice of the Peace of Cherokee, which will be used in the prosecution of Johnson.

The preliminary examination of Johnson has been set for Saturday at 11 a. m. in Justice Hill's court.

Parker, the halfbreed, who was cut in the adomen, is said to be likely to die.

PARKER, Billy

Oroville Mercury, March 12, 1901

THE THIRD VIC- TIM OF JOHN- SON'S KNIFE.

Dick Johnson is three times a murderer. Billy Parker, the third victim of his fatal knife breathed his last at Cherokee this morning. Parker was one of those cut in the fatal row at the Indian camp, near Cherokee, on March 3d, and it has been practically certain for several days that he could not survive. He is the only man of the party, except Johnson, who used a weapon of any kind, and his weapon was a chair, grasped hastily when it was seen that Johnson was stabbing Joe Brown with a knife.

Both Brown and Parker lost their lives in an effort to prevent a serious ending of the trouble, and are entitled to some credit for the part they took in the fight. Brown merely tried to make peace, and Parker was killed for trying to save Brown.

Coroner Bullington went to the scene today to hold an inquest on the remains. He was accompanied Stenographer L. V. Hendricks.

PARKER, Billy

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Oroville Mercury

April 20, 1901

Indian Pow Wow at Chico.

Indians from Colusa, Butte, Lake and Glenn counties to the number of a thousand are gathered at the rancharia above Colusa, for a grand pow wow, which will last for ten days. The potlach has a tribal significance and it is not without feature of enjoyment. In a large sweathouse, built of mud and thatch and shaped like a bee hive, the Indians crowd for their dances. A fire in the center lights the place and the only openings are a small one in the roof for the smoke to escape and the holes at which the braves and the squaws crawl in. When the wierd dance has been in progress for a time no white man could inhale the heavy atmosphere within without fainting. Feasting and singing enliven the nights. The Pit, Shasta and Modoc Indians of Northern California hold themselves aloof from the Indians of the lower counties, and have sent no representative to the present potlach.

Sivils, Chas (Indian)

5-30-1901

OROVILLE REGISTER.

VOL. XXIII.

OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1901.

No. 35.

LIVED A CENTURY.

The Oldest Indian Resident in This County.

Jas Nelson of Rackerby, was in town Thursday making arrangements to bury one of the oldest Indian residents of Butte county. In a very early day the old man worked for Charley Sivils and took his name. This was when Mr Sivils first came to California and worked at Yankee Flat.

The native Chas Sivils was a brother to Mr Nelson's grandfather. Mr Nelson says he is now forty-four years old and he can remember the old man when he was not more than six. He was then a gray headed man and the Indians reckon his years at a full hundred. He was active up to about two months ago when his legs and arms seemed to fail him suddenly and since then he has been confined to his house up to the time of his death.

He was married ten times, surviving the nine first wives, but leaves one wife now living. His children and all his grandchildren have passed away, leaving Mr Nelson his nearest living relative.

His remains were buried on Friday at Swede's Flat. where he lived nearly his entire life. Mr Nelson tells us the aged Indian was one who worked for the late John Bidwell at Bidwell Bar, when gold was first discovered there.

Oroville Mercury

7-8-1901

Two Hostile Indians Meet on a Trail Near Magalia and go to War.

INDIANS FIGHT.

George Moore, a halfbreed Indian, and James Stevens, a fullblood, met on a trail near Magalia Saturday and proceeded to have a lively mixup. Stories differ as to which was the aggressor. Moore is a cripple and he was the first to appear to tell his story. He reached Chico Saturday evening and Constable Rowe brought Stevens in Sunday night. Moore's story as told to the *Chico Record* is to the effect that the feud is of long standing and the fight on this occasion was forced by Stevens. Something over 20 years ago they had a fight in which one used a brickbat the other a knife. Both were at Magalia on the Fourth and Moore, who is a cripple, with only one leg, started on his horse for home, a distance of about four miles, over a lonely trail leading to Flee Valley. Stevens followed him on foot and about two miles out overtook him. Stevens asked him if he remembered cutting him years ago.

Moore replied that he did, but begged Stevens to let that be a matter of by-gone days. Stevens was ugly and only awaited a word as an excuse for an attack. Finally Moore, after pleading with him not to hurt him, as he was unable to defend himself, said, "Jim, you know you were to blame in the old fight.", Stevens then referred to him with an oath, and pulled him from his horse.

He then struck Moore twice as he fell to the ground, and then, after nearly breaking one of his ribs by kicking him on the back, jumped on him and began beating him on the head with a rock, inflicting exceedingly painful but not serious wounds. In the meantime Moore succeeded in getting his pocket knife from his pocket, and, opening it with his teeth and one hand, made a thrust into the body of his assailant.

Moore says that as soon as he stabbed him, Stevens quit and disappeared.

It is understood that Stevens claims that Moore provoked a quarrel, finally tried to stab him, and succeeded in cutting him slightly on the jaw. He then gave Moore a thrashing.

AN AGED CLERGYMAN IS KILLED BY TRANSIT CAR.

W. F. Kelly's Management of the Street
Car System Has Caused a Storm of
Protest From the People.

An aged clergyman struck to death on his way to church is the latest exploit of the Telegraph avenue line under the malign management of W. F. Kelly, General Manager of the Oakland Transit. This horrible Sabbath tragedy is a hideous reminder of the change in the control of the line.

The atrocity occurred at the crossing of Sixteenth street about 10 o'clock yesterday morning, the victim being Rev. John L. Burchard, who has been living with his son, Dr. L. S. Burchard, who resides at 318 Nineteenth street, for the past year. Mr. Burchard, who was 78 years of age, passed around the rear of one car to cross the street and was immediately run down by another car coming from the opposite direction. He was taken up senseless with a broken skull and sent to the Receiving Hospital in the police patrol wagon, but was dead before reaching there.

Manager Kelly simply smiles and disclaims all responsibility. He says if people get in front of the cars he cannot help it if they get run over. According to his view, the Transit Company owns the streets, and people who attempt to cross them must do so at their peril. It is the business of pedestrians to keep out of the way, and not the business of the corporation to guard against killing and mangling them. Such is the humane idea of W. F. Kelly, who has made the Oakland Transit Company a synonym for insecurity, bad service, broken down equipment and a general public bed—d policy.

Incidentally, the killing of Mr. Burchard demonstrated that the car fenders are about as useful in saving life and limb as a barbed wire fence. They protect the cars from being damaged by the people they strike—that is all, and that is W. F. Kelly's idea of safeguarding against accidents.

Henry L. White, the motorman of the car, and Harry M. Lurrell, the conductor, were placed under arrest. At the police station Motorman White made the following statement:

"I had slowed down when approaching the northbound car and was not running at high speed when the accident occurred. It was just as my car front passed the rear of the other car that I saw the old gentleman step on my track.

"He was right on to the car before I could do a thing to save him. As quickly as I could I reversed the controller and tried to throw the car backward, but he had been struck and knocked down. The man was hit, as nearly as I could see, by one of the stanchions at the front of the car."

The conductor and motorman were released on their own recognizance.

The body of the aged minister was removed to an undertaker's parlors, and this evening Coroner Mehrmann will hold an inquest.

Rev. John L. Burchard was born in Delaware and was ordained a minister of the Methodist Church at the age of nineteen. He came to California forty years ago, and has been prominent in Methodist Church work ever since, up to one year ago, when he retired from the ministry. For a number of years he was presiding elder of the Stockton Conference. His last charge was at Santa Rosa, where his wife died a year ago. His long service in the ministry had made him widely known and he was highly esteemed throughout the State. He leaves three children, Dr. L. S. Burchard and Mrs. C. H. Twombly of this city, and D. W. Burchard, formerly District Attorney of Santa Clara county, but now a resident of San Francisco.

The killing of Mr. Burchard is a tragic illustration of the change that has taken place on the Telegraph avenue line since it passed into the hands of the Transit Company and under the management of W. F. Kelly—a change for the worse that has fallen on everything Kelly has touched. Under the Pacific Improvement Company the Telegraph avenue line was one of the

best managed lines in the whole country. It gave a splendid service and was extremely popular with its patrons. The employes were courteous and showed the greatest solicitude for the safety and convenience of passengers. Runs were made on time and there were no accidents. In short, the service was a model.

When W. F. Kelly took control for the Transit Company there was an immediate change. The service was cut down and the running time became exasperatingly irregular. Accidents began to happen—accidents always happen on car lines run by W. F. Kelly. There were irritating stoppages and the general tone of the service and the attitude of employes toward the public underwent a subtle change for the worse. The brutality of Kelly toward the carmen in the service of the Transit Company is reflected in their demeanor toward the public. They have no loyalty to the company and no respect for their chief, because they are overworked and treated as dumb driven cattle. Kelly has practically succeeded in breaking up their organization and in every way has shown a contemptuous disregard of their rights and feelings.

Kelly has treated the public with equal contempt. He is indifferent to their rights and convenience, and his attitude is one of defiance of every legal and moral obligation resting upon him in his capacity as manager of the Transit system. Naturally this policy is reflected down to the humblest employe, and the public suffers in common with the men.

When Kelly came out here from Columbus, Ohio, he came with the reputation of being a union-breaker and a "cheap reorganizer." His course here has proved the reputation well earned.

BURCHARD, Rev. John L.

Santa Cruz Sentinel

1-7-1902

PIONEER MINISTER

CRUSHED TO DEATH.

OAKLAND, Jan. 6.—Rev. John L. Burchard, one of the pioneer Methodist ministers of California, was struck down by a Telegraph-avenue electric car yesterday morning, while on his way to the First M. E. Church, and killed almost instantly. The aged pastor had crossed the track behind an inbound car and stepped in front of another going the other way.

Motorman H. M. Tyrrel states that he did not see the Rev. Mr. Burchard in time to apply his brakes, the other car, as the victim passed behind it, hiding him from view.

Rev. John L. Burchard was born in Delaware in 1822. He was ordained a minister at the age of 19 at Delaware. Shortly afterwards he moved to Missouri and for several years occupied pulpits in that State. In the spring of 1860 Mr. Burchard came to California across the plains and settled in San Francisco. From that time until his retirement he was a leader of the California Methodist Conference. He served in nearly every town or city of any size in the State, and for a number of years was presiding elder of the Stockton district. His latest charge was the Methodist Church in Santa Rosa, but while there last May his wife died. He retained his position for a short time, but in September broken in health and spirit, came to live in quiet at the home of his son. Besides Dr. Burchard, he left one son, Attorney D. W. Burchard of San Francisco, and one daughter, Mrs. C. H. Twombly.



DEATH OF FATHER BURCHARD.

A Pioneer Minister Accepts His Last Call.
Accidentally Killed.

Rev. J. L. Burchard, for years past an instructor of the Indians of Potter valley and Lake county, met with an accident last week which resulted in his death. The Chronicle says:

Rev. John L. Burchard, a retired Methodist minister, aged 78 years while on his way to church Sunday morning was struck by a southbound Telegraph Avenue car at Sixteenth street, Oakland, sustaining injuries from which he died while being removed to the receiving hospital. The accident occurred a few minutes after 10 o'clock. Mr. Burchard had come from the home of his son, Dr. L. S. Burchard, 318 Durant street, and was about to cross Telegraph Avenue when he noticed a northbound car approaching. He stopped long enough to allow the car to pass and then started across the street.

Before he had time to get out of the way he was struck by southbound car No. 51, in charge of Conductor Harry

BURCHARD, Rev. John L.

Ukiah Republican Press

1-10-1902

M. Tyrrel and Motorman Henry W. White. The car was running at nearly its ordinary rate of speed. Burchard was struck on the head by a stanchion on the front end of the car and knocked down, being rendered unconscious by the blow. The injured man was immediately picked up by Dr. George Pomeroy and others, who witnessed the accident, and cared for until the city ambulance arrived. The patient was hurried to the receiving hospital, but life was extinct when the ambulance reached there.

Mr. Burchard was a native of Delaware. He came to California forty-two years ago and subsequently filled many Methodist pulpits in this state. For several years he was Indian Agent at Round Valley. After he retired from his position he resided at Santa Rosa until last spring, when he buried his wife. Since that time he had been residing with his son, Dr. Burchard, in this city. Another son, D. W. Burchard, is a practicing attorney in San Francisco. He was formerly prosecuting attorney at San Jose. The only other child is Mrs. Mary M. Twombly, of 624 Sixteenth street, widow of the late C. H. Twombly, who was formerly cashier of the First National Bank in this city. No arrangements have yet been made for the funeral.

Motorman White and Conductor Tyrrel were arrested on charges of manslaughter, but were subsequently released on their own recognizance.

JACKSON, Mrs. Emma

Chico Daily Record

6-26-1902

MRS. EMMA JACKSON

DIES AS A RESULT

OF HEAVY LIFTING

Mrs. Emma Jackson, than whom there was only a few older natives of Butte County, died yesterday evening at 5:30 o'clock, her serious illness having been of but two or three days' duration. Two or three days ago Mrs. Jackson lifted a tub of water, and so strained herself as to cause the fatal effect on a rupture from which she had suffered considerably for a number of years past. Dr. Stansbury was called to her bedside Tuesday, and found that there was but little hope to be entertained for her recovery.

Deceased was a native Indian woman, having been born at an Indian rancharia located on Feather river near the old Hamilton Ferry. She was aged 62 years. Peter Jackson, the pioneer colored barber of Chico, came to California in early days, and became acquainted with her with the result that they were united in marriage in 1860 at Cherokee, Squire Glass performing the ceremony.

In 1864, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson moved to Chico, where Mr. Jackson has since been engaged in barbering, and is respected by both white and colored people generally.

Mrs. Jackson was the mother of nine children, five of whom are dead. The living are Eugene, Josephine, Peter Edward and William. She was a member of the Colored Order of Eastern Star, and generally admired by the colored people as a kind, hard-working mother.

The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from the African M. E. Church.

BROWN, John (Indian)

Oroville Mercury

6-26-1902

Found a Dead Indian.

Captain Rose, who lives near Biggs, found the body of a dead Indian yesterday afternoon lying in a dry gulch between Biggs and Chardon. The man had been to Biggs and made a number of purchases, and several packages lay beside the body. Coroner Bullington held an inquest today. A jury was impanelled and found that the man was John Brown, aged 53, of Bloomer Hill. He had been ill for some time and death was attributed to natural causes. The remains will be taken to Bloomer Hill for burial.

DOWELL, Mrs. Ella (Ellen Josephson)
Oroville Register
7-10-1902

Death of Mrs. Dowell.

Mrs. Ella Dowell, wife of James Dowell, of this town, died Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock. She was born and reared in Oroville, and was 36 years, nine months and seventeen days old. Her maiden name was Ella Josephson and she leaves her husband and a daughter, aged seventeen, her mother, one brother, Oliver Josephson, a sister, Mrs. Ernest Walsh, and a half-brother, Charles Matthews, to mourn her loss.

The deceased had been ill for a long time, seriously ill for the past year, and for weeks past her death has been anticipated, as no medical help seemed to aid her.

After her marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Dowell resided at Sisson, and in that vicinity, for a number of years, but about two years ago they returned here, where they have resided since.

So far as we could ascertain last evening, no time has been set for the funeral.

THE INDIAN BURNING AT BLOOMER HILL.

One of the annual customs of the Digger Indians is to have an annual burning, which is a sacred rite and takes place at one of the old burying grounds.

The Bloomer Hill burial ground is one of the oldest in this region, and is used by the Indians for this purpose.

On Monday night a burning took place, and a large number of Indians and quite a number of white people attended the same. In the afternoon the poles, five or six in number, were prepared and adorned with articles. These poles were young pines, from fifteen to twenty feet in length, and which had been stripped of leaves but not of limbs. The center pole appeared the main one, and the incantations were addressed to it. It was evident that this pole, with its adornments, belt and trappings, was the evil spirit.

The leader among the Indians bore the name of Capt. John Chinaman, and before this center pole he placed a bowl of soup during the ceremonies. It appeared as if little companies or possibly families had prepared articles to be burned, and when the time came for the disposal of these the particular company or family advanced and burned them.

The articles this year were nearly all articles of clothing and sacks of flour. All the Indian women the day preceding the burning were at work on articles to be burn that night. Only a few Indian baskets were exhibited this time, and none were burned.

Oroville Register

11-6-1902

Indians were present from Colusa, Chico, Mooretown, Indian Valley and other places. The burning did not take place until midnight or after, and was all concluded before day light. On Tuesday the Indians spent the day feasting and gambling.

There was much excitement when the center pole or evil spirit was destroyed, and both men and women wept freely.

The gambling attracted much attention, and quite a number of white men took part in what is known as the grass game. A quantity of short grass is prepared, and into this short sticks are hidden. The players are arranged in two rows, and those having the grass and sticks play while the others must do the guessing. Our informant did not know exactly what the conditions of the game were, but he saw that each man put up some money, so that when the game was made up there were eight or ten dollars to be played for. When by guessing the position or place of the sticks one side won, that side scored a point and was given a long stick, which was kept in sight. They played until one side or the other won all the sticks, when that side was the victor and was entitled to the money.

WILLIAMS, Eddie
Gridley Herald
8-22-1903

AN INDIAN BOY DIES OF POISON

Eddie Williams an Indian boy died of poisoning last Monday and for a time there was a suspicion that the case might be one involving foul play. The boy with a companion went to a spring in the neighborhood of Cherokee where they found a paper bag in the crotch of a tree where it had been left by campers. The Indian children opened the bag and found that it contained candy and crackers. They took the bag to their camp and the contents were divided among several Indian children. Two of them ate the candy which was of a cheap variety and the others ate the crackers. Eddie Williams ate candy and in a short time became sick and later died. The other boy, about eighteen years of age who also ate candy was made sick, but recovered. Several girls who ate of the crackers were not harmed. Deputy Coroner Reynolds went to the scene and investigated, but not being able to find that the poison had been placed in the candy but had rather been probably developed by remaining a long time in the sun, he did not hold an inquest.

Note: Grandson of Oregon Charley

CHASE, Ezra C.
Oroville Register
10-8-1903

DEATH OF E. C.

CHASE IN MANILA

We greatly regret the death of Ezra C. Chase, formerly of this town. He left here several years ago with his daughter for the Hawaiian Islands, and from there went to Manila near which place he died.

The following account of his death and a slight sketch of his life is taken from a county exchange.

Eutte county relatives have just received the news of the death of E. C. Chase, a former well known resident of this county. The dreaded cholera seized him August 14th and the next day Mr. Chase died.

The deceased was born in Maine, 67 years ago. He came to California many years ago. For the last years of his residence in this State he was engaged in the business of selling pianos and musical instruments with headquarters in this town.

In company with his daughter, Miss Maude Chase, a well known teacher of this county, he went to the Hawaiian Islands about four years ago. There Miss Chase engaged in teaching and later they went to the Philippines, where his daughter for a time was a government teacher. Some time ago she was married, her name now being Mrs. Love, her husband being a Vice-Consul.

Mr. Chase was a well educated and highly respected gentleman who had many friends in this county.

He leaves surviving in this county three sisters, Mrs. S. S. Pence, Mrs. Van Ness and Mrs. Knox, all of Paradise.

We may add to the above that Mr. Chase was an enthusiastic gardner and had been appointed in charge of a government experiment station on one of the islands of the Philippine group.

He was at this station when taken ill. His daughter, Mrs. Love was sent for the moment he was taken sick, but we believe was not able to reach his bedside before death.

Mr. Chase was a soldier in the Union Army and during a part of the war was stationed near Salt Lake.

He was a man of genial and kindly feelings, well read and a very interesting talker. We regret that his death should have taken place so far from his old home and old friends.

BROWN, Mrs. Minnie

Oroville Register

10-8-1903

INDIAN WOMAN

FOUND DEAD

Miss Brown, an Indian woman, who used to live near Cherokee, was found dead on French Creek on either Thursday night or Friday morning. A telephone dispatch yesterday morning from Dr. Bullington to Deputy Coroner A. V. Reynolds stated that her body had been found. Mr. Reynolds left to hold an inquest on the remains. The funeral will take place today at Bidwell Bar.

Mrs. Brown was a witness in the so-called Johnson case which was tried in the Superior Court here a year or more ago.

HER DEATH RESULTED

FROM NATURAL CAUSES

On Friday afternoon Undertaker A. V. Reynolds went up to French Creek and held an inquest on the remains of Miss Brown, who had died suddenly on Thursday afternoon. The Coroners jury found that death had resulted from natural causes.

The woman had been ill for more than a year past but had been able to be around, and nothing serious was feared as a result of the complication she was afflicted with. On Thursday afternoon she was suddenly taken seriously ill and an hour from that time she was dead. Her daughter and two other women were with her at the time of her death, and done all possible for her.

The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock, and interment was made in the Bidwell Bar cemetery.

SAYS LAW IS INAPPLICABLE

Indians Living on Government
Reservations Need Not Obey
State Code, Says Woodworth

TEST CASE WILL BE
TRIED BY DE HAVEN

David Lincoln, Member of the
Concow Tribe, Round Valley
Reservation, Is Released on
a Habeas Corpus Petition.

Federal and State judicial officers have clashed in the case of David Lincoln, an Indian of the Concow tribe, who was arrested recently for shooting a deer on the Indian reservation at Round valley. A Justice of the Peace at Covelo, which is situated on the outskirts of the reservation, fined Lincoln \$25 for his violation of the State game laws. In default of the fine he was sent to prison. Now he is out on a writ of habeas corpus obtained at the instance of United States Attorney Marshall B. Woodworth. The District Attorney claims that the Covelo Justice of the Peace acted entirely without jurisdiction, as the Indian living on the reservation is a ward of the United States. Hence it is claimed by the Federal officials that when the man was imprisoned he was illegally restrained of his liberty. The habeas

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corpus petition will come up for hearing in the United States District Court before Judge De Haven at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. A decision upon the point involved will be looked for with interest by attorneys all over the State. It will decide whether or not State statutes are applicable to territory exclusively under the control of the Federal Government.

Aside from the interesting legal point involved, sportsmen everywhere keenly await the decision of the United States Judge. Fish Commissioner Vogelsang and every other member of the Fish and Game Commission of the State are anxious that the question of jurisdiction shall be finally settled. White settlers living in the vicinity of reservations are incensed that Indians should be granted privileges denied to citizens of this State. They have stated to local game wardens that there is no incentive to live up to the law when they see Indians who are their neighbors fearlessly disregard it. If the wards of the United States who live on these tracts are not subject to the laws of the State, then, hold the sportsmen and white settlers, reservations will become great game preserves where none may hunt but Indians or those fortunate enough to secure the permission of the superintendent. This, they claim, will lead to a certain species of poaching and the eventual extinction of game in the regions thus unprotected.

These objections, Attorney Woodworth says, he is inclined to think are based upon sentiment, and that the law on the proposition will sustain the attitude of the United States.

Oroville Daily Register

2-6-1904

EARLY DAYS IN BUTTE AMONG THE INDIANS

From W. H. Mullen we gather the following items concerning some Indian incidents in early days in Butte. He was mining at Stringtown and noted in 1852 that the Indians south of the Middle Fork were known as Yubas, while those north of that stream were known as Picas.

On one occasion in the spring of 1852, the Yubas, near Buffalo Ranch, close to what is now Hurleton, were having a grand time and were cooking up food for a grand dance that was to take place. One of the Yubas was wounded with an arrow and this ended the fight. There was a big crying time among the Yubas, but whether it was because their man was hurt or because their dance and supper were spoiled, we are unable to say.

During the same spring a white man was killed and a cabin robbed by some of the Picas. The miners at Stringtown captured the Chief of the Yubas together with his squaws and pappoose and held the squaws and children as hostages, telling the Chief to go out with some of his men and capture the Pica who had killed the white man. He and his warriors set forth and in due time returned to the place with the murderer. A miner's trial was had and the Pica was found guilty and hanged.

During the excitement attendant upon the trial and hanging, one of the miners who had been on a spree and who was still quite drunk was awakened in his bunk. He rolled out, caught up his gun and running across the room fired at another man sleeping in a bunk and wounded him quite severely in the shoulder. The assailant was tried but it was found that owing to the liquor he was hardly responsible for the act, so was released.

REGARDING INDIANS IN EARLY TIMES

Talking with a pioneer here a day or two ago he said of the Indians in early times that those on the north and west side of the Feather were named Lillipies. These included the Indians near Oroville, at the Sam Neal ranch on Butte Creek, those on the Bidwell ranch at Chico, the Yeats Indians, near Gridley and those of Yuba City. These all assembled together for dances and games.

Between these and those of Mooretown ridge there was always more or less trouble. While there were fights at intervals, yet the casualties were not large, as only bows and arrows were used. He remembered that on one occasion a very good looking young Indian woman and her little girl of about five years old were killed by the Mooretown Indians. The woman and her child were on the west side of the Feather river and had laid down under a big tree in springtime sunning themselves. Some of the Mooretown Indians came in sight of the woman and child, and silently making their approach, swam the river and crept upon the two, killing mother and daughter.

The Indians had no spear for fighting in the early days, but used a spear for fish. In 1849 the Indian women used to wear a sort of skirt made of tules, which came down about to the knee or a little below. The men wore a breech cloth and after whites came among them used to wear pants, shirts and hats. He said he saw on one occasion a buck wearing six woolen shirts one over the other. He had on a plug hat, but no pants or shoes.

MAXWELL, Mrs. James G. (Mary Jane)

Plumas National Bulletin

7-21-1904

Death of Mrs. Maxwell.

Last week, we noted the serious illness of Mrs. James G. Maxwell, of Butterfly Valley. Death came to her relief on Friday, the 15th inst.

Mrs. Maxwell was one of the pioneer ladies of Plumas. She was born at Hannibal, Mo., but came to this county in 1854. Later she was united in marriage to Mr. James G. Maxwell, of Butterfly Valley, which place has been her home ever since. Besides twelve children she leaves her aged husband and her brother, James Underwood, to mourn her loss. Through the long years of her life in Plumas, she strove to do her duty to her family. To them her death comes as a heavy blow, a loss irreparable. Their many friends sympathize with them in their hours of sore bereavement. The funeral took place from the M. E. Church Sunday, Rev. Willis conducting the ceremonies. At 2. p. m. the remains were consigned to their last resting place in Quincy cemetery, a large number of friends being present to pay a last tribute of respect to the memory of the pioneer lady.

DIED.

MAXWELL.—At Butterfly Valley, July 15, 1904, Mrs. Mary Jane Maxwell, a native of Missouri, aged 64 years, 5 months and 16 days.

—Clarence Maxwell and his sister, Mrs. Greaves, came up from below last Friday to attend the funeral of their mother, Mrs. James G. Maxwell.



ANNUAL REPORT OF
SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

We take from the report of Superintendent R. H. Dunn the figures on the schools of Butte for the year ending July 1st, 1904.

The report was concluded yesterday afternoon:

Number of white children over 5, but not over 17 years of age, boys 2,298; girls, 2292; total 4590.

Number of Negro children over 5, but not over 17 years of age—boys 8; girls, 5; total 13.

Number of Indian children over 5, but not over 17 years of age—boys 32; girls, 31; total 63.

Native born Mongolians over 5, but not over 17 years of age—boys 9; girls 2; total 11.

Total number of census children over 5, but not over 17 years of age, 4677.

Number of census children that attend public school during the year, 3763.

Number of census children that attend private school during the year 35.

Number that did not attend either public or private school during the year 879.

Number of children under 5 years of age—white, 1538; negro 3; Indian 31; Mongolian 7; total 1579.

Native born children 6229; foreign born 27; total 6256.

Number of children over 5 that are deaf 4.

Number of children over 5 and not over 17 that have been vaccinated, 2802.

Number of grammar schools, 53.

Number of primary schools, 17.

Number of regular and special teachers, 108; male teachers, 16; female teachers, 92.

Teachers holding high school certificates 3; teachers holding grammar school certificates 104.

Balance of money on hand July 1st, 1903, \$12,168.77. Amount received from State apportionment \$36,177.65. Amount received from County apportionment, \$38,028.30. Amount received from district taxes, \$7,621.27. Amount received from sale of bonds, \$3050.12. Amount received from miscellaneous sources, \$708.52.

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Total receipts from all sources, \$97,754.63.

Amount paid for teacher's salaries, \$62,576.55.

Amount paid for contingent expenses, supplies, etc, \$12,388.45.

Amount paid for sites buildings and furniture, \$8,148.51.

Amount paid for library and apparatus \$977.34.

Total expenditures, \$84,090.85.

Balance on hand at close of June 30th, 1904, \$13,663.78.

Valuation of lots, school buildings, etc., \$180,348.

Valuation of school libraries, \$11,610.

Valuation of school apparatus, \$4,843.

Total valuation of all school property \$196,801.

Average number belonging to grammar and primary schools, 2695.

Average daily attendance in grammar and primary schools, \$2517.

Percentage of attendance 93.

Number of pupils in primary schools boys 1319; girls, 1182.

Number of pupils in grammar schools—boys 463; girls, 547.

Total number of boys 1782.

Total number of girls, 1729.

Total of boys and girls, 3511.

Number of days school was maintained during the year, 158.

Number of months same teacher has been in charge of school, 267.

Amount paid monthly to teachers \$67.20.

Number of school visits by County Superintendent, 11.

Number of school visits by trustees, 220.

Number of school visits by other persons 1607.

Average cost per pupil enrolled in the primary and grammar schools, 29.08.

Average cost per pupil in High School 67.89

NOTORIOUS MURDERER

Dick Johnson Threatens to Kill His Wife

AND THE OFFICERS
ARE SUMMONED

Sheriff Chubbuck and Constable Rellly
Left at 1:30 This Morning for Yan-
kee Hill, As it is Feared Johnson
Will Carry Out His Threats.

● Late last evening a telephone ●
● message to the Sheriff's office, ●
● from Yankee Hill, gave the in- ●
● formation that Dick Johnson, the ●
● notorious character, who killed ●
● three Indians in a fight at Chero- ●
● kee a couple of years ago, had ●
● made an attempt to take the life ●
● of his wife. ●

● The message stated that Mrs. ●
● Johnson had escaped from the ●
● house, and was now stopping at ●
● the home of Mrs. Dora Wells at ●
● Yankee Hill. Johnson was still ●
● at his home, about a mile and a ●
● half from the residence of Mrs. ●
● Wells. ●

● Sheriff James Chubbuck and ●
● Constable T. P. Rellly left at 1:30 ●
● this morning for the scene of the ●
● attempted murder, and will prob- ●
● ably bring Johnson back with ●
● them today. ●

A special dispatch to The Register
from Yankee Hill at 10 o'clock last
evening says that nothing has been
heard of Johnson since his attempt
at murder was made, and it is sup-
posed that he is still at the family
home, while Mrs. Johnson will re-
main under her neighbor's protection
until the arrival of the officers this
morning.

The details of the affair are meager
but as near as can be learned, John-
son had been up at Magalia, and had
left that city to go to Colgate, where
he had secured employment with the
Valley Counties Power Company. He
boarded the train and went to Chico
on Tuesday, but instead of leaving
Chico for Colgate he remained there
until yesterday, when he started for
his home at Yankee Hill, at which
place he arrived about 7 o'clock last
evening.

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His wife was at home, but was not
expecting her husband to come back
she thinking he was probably at Col-
gate by that time. When he arrived
he was in an ugly mood, and it is pre-
sumed started to quarrel with his bet-
ter half, and finally he became so
abusive that Mrs. Johnson began to
get frightened.

After more words Johnson said that
he would kill her, and it is said, did
make an attempt to shoot her, but
luckily she escaped from the house
out into the darkness, and made her
way to the home of Mrs. Wells at
Yankee Hill, leaving the would-be-
murderer in possession of the house.

At Yankee Hill Mrs. Johnson told
her story of the treatment she had
been receiving and said that her hus-
band would surely kill her if he got
an opportunity. At this word was im-
mediately sent here for the officers.

Dick Johnson is well known in Butte
County as one of the most desperate
and troublesome characters, and he is
looked upon as a dangerous man by
all who are familiar with him. His
past record is a very black one, and
our readers will recall the fatal com-
bat which took place at Cherokee sev-
eral years ago, in which three Indians
met death as the result of the wounds
received from a knife in his hands.

For this offense Johnson was ar-
rested and after spending many
months in the County Jail, was tried
by a jury, who saw fit to give him his
freedom. Since that time he has been
living in the vicinity of Yankee Hill,
where the affair of yesterday occurred.

He claims to be part Mexican, and
it seems that at times he is seized
with a desire to take human life. The
killing of the three Indians in this
county is said to be only one of his
crimes, and it is reported that several
other men have fell victims to his
murderous desire.

His last offense will probably result
in his serving a term in prison, as the
people of eastern Butte are becoming
tired of his troublesome and treacher-
ous ways.

Oroville Daily Register

8-29-1904

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH BY EXPOSURE

That James Pratt of Mooretown, did not die from cold and exposure last week may be considered a piece of good luck for him. As stated recently in the various county papers Mr. Pratt sprang from his bed where he was lying down, ran from the house, sprang over a high picket fence and disappeared in the thick brush of the locality where his home was at Mooretown.

No time was lost by the neighbors in searching for him for they knew he was delirious. He was gone all of the day he disappeared, all that night, the following day, all of that night and about half of the next day. He had water but nothing to eat and consequently was very weak. He had been ill with fever and from the effects of a prolonged spree, when he ran from the house and this still further added to his weakness. When found he had wandered into an Indian camp and had been there about four hours. He was placed on a horse and taken back to his home, where he is being nursed back to health.

George Bean, one of the party who found Pratt says that when he reached the Indian camp he was given a little fruit. Mr. Pratt is rational at times and told of his wanderings. He said he was on a hill where there was a stream at the bottom. He was very thirsty and went to the creek to get water. Then he climbed the long hill and by the time he reached the top he was wild for water again, so went to the creek. This was repeated several times.

The unfortunate man appeared to think he was being pursued by those who sought to do him an injury for he took off his shoes after having gone quite a long distance and then tied his feet up in his drawers. The object he had in view was to keep any one from recognizing his footprints. He apparently realized that his neighbors were hunting for him for he said he heard them shouting. When asked why he did not answer he said he did. Mr. Bean explains that Pratt was so weak his voice could be heard only a very short distance.

His friends fear that he will not recover his mental balance even if he survives the hardships to which he was exposed during the two days and night in the mountains.