

**WHOLESALE KIDNAPPING.**—Under this caption a correspondent of the Red Bluff Independent charges, that certain parties, recently connected with the Nome-Lackee Reservation, have lately procured the services of the County Judge of Tehama to indenture to them for a term varying from ten to twenty years, all of the "most valuable" (that smacks of cotton-wool) Indians on the Reservation. The writer very properly contends that the Indian Apprentices law, which was passed last winter, did not contemplate the taking of friendly, industrious Indians from the home provided for them by the Federal Government, but those who might be properly described by the term "vagrant," or such others as might be under the special care of Government. The Act relating to this subject is amendatory to one passed so long ago as 1850. It gives to county and district judges full power and authority, at the instance and request of any persons having rightful charge of Indian children under the age of fifteen, or at the instance and request of any person desirous of obtaining any Indians, whether children or grown persons, that may be held as prisoners of war, or at the instance and request of any person desirous of obtaining any vagrant Indians who have no settled habitation or means of livelihood, and have not placed themselves under the protection of any white person, to bind and put out such Indians as apprentices to trades, husbandry, &c. This condensed quotation from the law, embracing its whole substance, certainly does not warrant a conclusion that Indians who are under the protection of Government were meant to be apprenticed, and if such a practice is allowed or contemplated in Tehama county, the authorities should put a stop to it at once.

