

THE INDIANS IN MENDOCINO COUNTY.

On Friday the member of Assembly from Mendocino, J. B. Lamm, introduced a bill for organizing and equipping a company of fifty volunteers to serve against the Indians in Humboldt and Mendocino counties, the campaign to last ninety days. We printed the bill in full among our Assembly proceedings of the above date; also, the discussion which ensued on a motion of the author to refer it to a Special Committee, to report within twenty-four hours. The subject has assumed some interest from the exertions made by the Mendocino Representative to carry the measure through at rather a brisker pace than the usual legislative gait. The bill was referred to a Special Committee, with instructions to report the next day (Saturday). On Saturday the subject took a new interest from a special message sent into the House by the retiring Governor, Latham. The communication approves the plan embraced in the bill referred to, and in support of its conclusions submits a bundle of documents relating to the Indian troubles in Mendocino county which appear to have covered nearly half the term of office of his Gubernatorial predecessor. A glance at the contents of these documents, in the order in which they are filed, will no doubt prove acceptable to those members of the Legislature and readers of our paper who have made up their minds to watch a little more closely,

up their minds to watch a little more closely, hereafter, the process by which our Indian wars are manufactured.

The first information filed in the Executive office of the bad conduct of the Mendocino Indians is in the nature of a petition from the inhabitants of that district, sent to the capital early last Spring. The signers ask for military aid and protection against unruly Indians in the northern part of the county. A copy of a letter follows, addressed by Governor Weller to General Clarke, Commander of the Pacific division, in which he asks the condition, number and character of the United States military posts in Mendocino county. This letter is dated April 29th; no reply accompanies.

A petition of the citizens of Nome Cult valley, signed June 18th, complains of the depredations of the Indians and of the ineffectual conduct of the United States troops under Major Johnson to repress the evil. They ask the raising of a volunteer company. The petition is signed by forty-one citizens. A copy of an agreement, signed by sixteen men, dated Eden valley, July 11th, electing W. S. Jarboe as their Captain to co-operate against the Indians of that vicinity, accompanies it. An extract from a report of the Grand Jury of Mendocino county at their August term, complains of the inefficiency of protection furnished by Act of 1850, granting jurisdiction and limited powers to Justices of the Peace over the Indians in their townships; states that there are from 8,000 to 12,000 Indians in Mendocino county, and notwithstanding that one reservation and several stations are maintained at great annual expense to the State, within the county limits, the inhabitants are unable to prevent the loss of stock and other property from the thieving propensities of thousands of miserable Indians who roam half starved over the country. It recommends that the Senators and Representatives from that district urge upon the Legislature the adoption of some adequate remedy for these evils. This extract is transmitted by ex-Judge S. C. Hastings, who writes a letter dated Cloverdale, Oct.

the Senators and Representatives from that district urge upon the Legislature the adoption of some adequate remedy for these evils. This extract is transmitted by ex-Judge S. C. Hastings, who writes a letter dated Cloverdale, Oct. 6th, in which he mentions a petition of county officers for the increase of Jarboe's Volunteers, then in service against the Indians. Also, commends Jarboe's achievements and his efficiency as Captain, concluding as follows:

The truth is, Jarboe is the only man who can command the volunteers; for if you drop him one hundred captains will spring up (all brave).

Rather a novel reason, this, for his preferment. The petition referred to accompanies the documents, and is signed by W. Henry, County Judge; J. B. Price, Sheriff; J. W. Morris, Treasurer, and S. Canning Smith, County Clerk. This petition was forwarded with a letter from J. B. Lamar (present Representative), dated Ukiah, Oct. 8th, and which, after referring to the Indian depredations in the vicinity of Long valley, and the necessity of keeping a military company on their tracks, goes on to say: "I think that so long as a military organization is necessary in that region that no more suitable person could have command of the company [than Captain Jarboe]. He has already encountered many dangers and endured many hardships, and last but not least [brought all his men to the polls and voted the straight Democratic ticket]. So far as my indorsement goes, it is for his bravery and efficiency, [and Democracy.]" The portion inclosed in brackets appear in the original letter, but is erased in the copy. As it is a part of the history of the war, justice to posterity as well as "Democracy" requires that it shall be preserved. Under the date of Sept. 28th appears the copy of a petition signed by twenty-six citizens of Long valley, asking Governor Weller to increase the number of men in Jarboe's command. *Per contra*, a document signed C. H. Veeder, dated Calpella, 8d October, informs Governor Weller that the acts of certain white men in the valley are enough to bring on an Indian war. Does not doubt but that portion of the truth is that...

On October, informs Governor Weller that the acts of certain white men in the valley are enough to bring on an Indian war. Does not doubt but that portions of the tribe in the northern part of the county are mischievously disposed, and require looking after; but thinks the excitement and talk of an Indian war, and the killing of Indians there going on, a great outrage. The United States troops, the writer says, are powerless to check the depredations of the evil disposed. About the same date is a letter from the County Judge, certifying to the Governor the necessity of an increase of the volunteer force.

Governor Weller's answers to these varied communications may be summed up more briefly. After the inquiry addressed to General Smith, in April, no action appears to have been taken by the Executive until September, when, under date of Sept. 6th, a communication is addressed to W. S. Jarboe, authorizing him to muster into the service of the State twenty men to act against the Indians in Mendocino county. He is instructed to co-operate with the Federal troops in the valley if possible. Two days after above date a letter follows from the Governor enjoining upon the Captain of the Mendocino volunteers to act with discretion—his attacks to be confined to those known to be engaged in killing the stock and driving off the cattle of settlers. The Governor says: "The information which I have received satisfies me that only a small band of Indians is engaged in committing outrages upon the whites." "An indiscriminate warfare against the whole tribe could not be justified by the facts now in my possession." A copy of a communication from Governor Weller to Jarboe, dated October 25th, again calls his attention to his instructions of the 8th of September, the Executive having received information from Mendocino county which warrants him in so doing. Jarboe is instructed to place his command on the defensive, and not wage a war of extermination against the Indians. The Governor cannot believe that the great body of the "Rynkas" have been engaged in committing depredations: "and the innocent ought not

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Then follow a series of reports from W. S. Jarboe, of his operations in the pursuit and chastisement of the Indians, which are too lengthy and would be too indefinite to general readers to make even an abstract acceptable. One circumstance is mentioned which it will be in place to state here. A note from Captain Jarboe to Lieutenant Dillon, of Company D, Sixth Infantry, and dated, Round valley, Oct. 8th, asks his co-operation "against the Indians that killed John Blair," etc. To which Lieutenant Dillon replies that he has no evidence of Mr. Blair's being killed by Indians, and therefore declines to co-operate with him. Subsequently, in his report to the Governor, Jarboe professes to have taken prisoners some of these same Indians and wrung from them the statement that

they were the murderers of Blair and that they burned him to death at the stake.

The command of Captain Jarboe is ordered to be disbanded in a communication signed by the Governor, January 5th, "it having accomplished all that was anticipated when the force was organized." The Governor thanks the volunteers for the manner in which the campaign was conducted.

The concluding portion of this mass of documents is a letter which we give in full below, and upon which the message of Governor Latham appears to hinge. The writer of the letter is indorsed as a man of respectability and veracity by the Mendocino member of Assembly:

To His Excellency, Milton S. Latham, Governor:

SIR: In behalf of the residents of Long valley and vicinity, Mendocino county, and as a citizen of the aforesaid locality, I beg leave to make the following representations relative to the Indian disturbances that there exist. The Indian tribes are now and for some time past have been committing depredations upon the persons and property of citizens who have given no cause for their hostility. Since about the 20th of September last they have killed three white men and about one hundred and fifty horses, and about three hundred head of cattle. They have made frequent attempts to fire our houses, and announced their determination openly to wage a war of extermination against the whites and their stock. The different tribes, having formed an alliance, are now sufficiently powerful to cause us the most serious apprehensions for the safety of ourselves and families. Indeed, unless we have some protection against the outrages of these savages, we will be compelled to abandon our homes. Since the commencement of the hostilities, the men of Long valley have formed themselves into a company for their mutual protection and performed alternately the duty of guarding and protecting themselves against the incursions of the Indians. These duties they are unable longer to perform, and therefore ask your Excellency to call the attention of the Legislature to the subject of our grievances and afford us whatever relief is in your power. It is my opinion that a company of fifty men can in ninety days completely subdue these hostile tribes and restore peace and tranquility. The foregoing facts I affirm are correct and true.

INDIAN WARS are becoming epidemic, and we fear the only effectual remedy for the disease will be an exhausted Treasury. The policy was inaugurated under Governor Weller, and so long as the State has a surplus of a half a million in her Treasury, we conclude that an Indian war will be considered necessary about every three months. It is, too, not a little singular that the one now under consideration should be in the county where the Mendocino Reservation is located, which is the point to which the Indians captured by General Kibbe in the Pitt river country were recently shipped. We believe those captured by the same officer last Winter were also sent to the same Reservation.

From the documents submitted to the Executive, it appears that the Indians are mischievous and stealing stock to keep from starving. They are not, as a matter of fact, hostile, as they have made no attack on settlements. If the State will appropriate one-half the money paid out in these war forays to buy provisions for the Indians, it would doubtless be more effectually as well as more humanely expended. Were the Indians really at war with the whites in Mendocino, and as numerous as reported, they could excommunicate the whites in twenty-four hours. They are at war with hunger and destitution, and are, during the inclemency of the Winter, driven to the point where they must steal or starve. Under these circumstances they steal stock, and the owners demand that they should be exterminated as a punishment. Let the State or United States send a thousand head of cattle to the Indians at Mendocino, and we should hear no more of Indian wars in that country.

SACRAMENTO DAILY UNION

SACRAMENTO, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 16, 1860.

ore the 19th of June, 1859. This was ren- possible by reasons and events beyond ontrol, not necessary to detail; but still it to the Chinese authorities at Shanghai to	fore his arrival, one of these residents had shot an animal belonging to the Company whilst tres- passing upon his premises, for which, however, he offered to pay twice its value, but that was	States have been seized without law, and a con- sular, officer who protested against such seizure, has been fined and imprisoned for disrespect to the authorities. Military contributions have	live- citi- of U that
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