

[For the California Star.]

Mr. Editor,—Having observed a communication in a late number of your valuable periodical, (signed Pacific,) eulogizing, and setting forth the advantages to be derived from the employment of Indians, wherein is stated that nature appears to have ordained that they should be made subservient to the will and pleasure of us whites, being an inferior order of beings—I propose to take a different view of the matter, and set aright your correspondent in one or more instances.

They should be enslaved, I think he says, and to all intents and purposes, (from my definition of his doctrine,) be made a subject of traffic in the hands of a few. Now, sir, I am of opinion that the writer of such an article has but a very feeble idea of the human family, and none whatever of the particular portion of which he treats. In the first instance, every body knows that it is almost as impossible for the white man to enslave the Indian, as it is for either to avert our common destiny. We are told it has been an old practice among the remnants of Castilian pomposity, or audacity if you will, in this country, to make annual sallies on these defenceless people, and drive them in herds to Christianize or rather to brutalize them. Now has this system of slavery improved their condition? I think not; and it followed that after a series of annual incursions upon them, the attempt to subjugate them was abandoned, finding they could not succeed in detaining any other than a few old women or children for any length of time; for like

"The Lark abroad that soars on high,
Through winter frosts and cold,
Would rather be at its liberty
Than in a cage of gold."

But of the Indian race in general. Cannot every American among us adduce instances innumerable, of heroism, and particularly to the North American Indian, reflecting lustre on the very name. They are by nature heroes and orators, as history proves; and what race of human beings are more susceptible? Render one of them a service and it is never to be obliterated from his memory; on the contrary, treat him roughly, and his thirst after revenge is almost infinite, terminating only with his existence.—witness the Sonoma tragedy. It may be said that they are an inferior race of beings to our northern Indians; as well may the polished Parisian assert that our rough-coated farmers are an inferior order of beings to themselves, when physically, morally, and patriotically, speaking, the superiority is in the

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What may have been Mr Pacific's object in referring to the Indian boy, I will leave the public to judge. Whether it is the mere gratification of coming down upon the administrators of the law in this country or not, I will not undertake to say. But from the fact, that the boy in question not only has been since the date of his incarceration, but is still detained as a close prisoner, with this exception, that instead of being permitted to wallow in filth and idleness, he is compelled to labor hard, and only within a very short period permitted to proceed three paces from the prison without a loaded musket and a glittering bayonet, on the shoulder of a sturdy volunteer following close at his heels. So much for his information on that point. Again, if we want to ameliorate the condition of the Indian population of the territory. I say let it be in honorable fashion as becomes Americans. Prove to them the fact, by acts of kindness towards them. Let me tell you that degraded as their present situation appears, it is far better than what it has been heretofore, and they are fast improving. But to have done with this. The policy of our govern-

ment towards them is leniency, the basis of
which is the rights of life, liberty, and the pur-
suit of happiness, remembering they are the
children of nature, the owners and occupants
of the soil we inherit and if we want their
labor, let it be conditional that they be per-
mitted to change employers at their discretion.
For the promotion of their interest inculcate
principles of morality amongst, or in a word,
—cultivate them. HUMANITAS

Public Notice

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In proportion as the structure of a Government gives force to Public Opinion, it is essential that Public Opinion should be properly directed.

SAN FRANCISCO, JANUARY 29, 1848.

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