

EEL RIVER CORRESPONDENCE.

Indian Warfare Justified—Exploits of the Eel River Rangers—Reported Killing of White Men and Immense Destruction of Stock—Innocent Indians and Women and Children Killed by mistake—An Intrepid White Fighter.

HEAD QUARTERS,
EEL RIVER RANGERS, JAN. 23d, 1860.

EDITORS UNION: Situated in the almost impenetrable fastnesses of the Coast Range mountains lying in Mendocino county, you will not think it strange that your humble correspondent is in total ignorance of what is passing in the outer world, and must be content in giving you a rough sketch of that which has been and is transpiring in this immediate locality. As this Company (the Eel River Rangers) is the only one at present engaged in Indian warfare in the State, it may be of interest to your readers to know something of its operations. The Company was gotten up in July last by the action and request of the citizens of the Eel River district, in the northern portion of this county, and in September they petitioned the Governor, who issued a Commission appointing W. S. Jarboe to the command of twenty well mounted and armed men, accustomed to mountain life and Indian warfare, to pursue and chastise hostile Indians and protect life and property in a certain prescribed boundary. To give you an idea of the necessity which at that time existed for the raising of such company, it is but just and truth to state that nine white men had been murdered and an almost incredible number of stock killed by Indians, within these limits in the last two years, or since that Federal engine of destruction to Indians, the Reservation, was planted within the borders of Mendocino county. The amount of property destroyed by them is variously estimated at from \$75,000 to \$150,000 worth, and I have no doubt that there has been a greater destruction of life and property than has been the case in any other section of equal extent in California. The Company made up of as

tent in California. The Company made up of as bold, reckless and daring, if not desperate, though generally well disposed, a set of men as you can well imagine. Head or Winter quarters were established in October, by erecting five log houses and a house for prisoners, on a high ridge near Middle Eel river, and some five miles southwest from Round valley. The Company has made regular trips, some being on the scout nearly the whole time when the weather would permit, since their organization.

There has been, from necessity, a large number of Indians killed, as it has been nearly impossible to separate the innocent, if there are any such, from the guilty, and in a running engagement some two or three women and children have been shot, purely accidentally, as they sometimes cannot be distinguished from the males at the distance between the combatants. The lives of the squaws have invariably been spared, except in the above cases, and all the hue and cry about indiscriminate slaughter has no foundation in truth. Prisoners have been treated with kindness and reasonably fed until they escaped or were removed to the Reservation. About two hundred have been killed, and as many, or more, taken prisoners. The number killed is much greater than would have been the case had there been an interpreter employed, as should have been, and as was most wisely suggested by the Governor. These Indians are unlike any I have ever seen. They are mentally and physically far inferior to the Apaches, Camanches, Snakes, Crows, Pi-Utes, or others with whom we have come in contact. These seem to possess all their thieving, sneaking, and murdering propensities, without the least spark of courage, boldness and manliness that is often found among other tribes, and as a consequence must be dealt with accordingly. Prisoners have been taken, who, on being told why a war was being waged against them, coolly replied that they were determined to kill and steal stock, and murder the whites so long as one of them remained. This being their intention, nothing short of a war of extermination would seem to be practical, however cruel this may appear, in order to rid the county of such intolerable and dangerous pests in human form.

This is a serious matter and may well claim the immediate attention of the State Department. The Indians rarely ever stand and fight, and never until cornered and number eight or ten to one. The only engagement where they made anything like a respectable opposition took place on the 9th of December, near South Eel river, in which eight of the Rangers under William

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A trail or road is projected leading from Petaluma through Sonoma, Napa, Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Ukiah, etc., to Humboldt, which, when completed, will add immensely to the importance of this section, but will have to be protected from Indians to be of any great utility. News has just been received that this Company were disbanded, but no doubt another will be at once organized, as the greatest necessity exists for a speedy and effectual protection to life and property in this region. **OBSERVER.**

SACRAMENTO DAILY UNION

SACRAMENTO, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 1, 1860.

<p>Mr. COXWELL—Nor I. Mr. WARNER (continuing)—But I am informed that he has stated that he would do no more engrossing until he has an assistant. To me this assertion is sufficient reason for retaining that gentleman no longer in the</p>	<p>the same jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases, as is or may be conferred upon Justice Courts. This section is not to be so construed as to limit the original jurisdiction of the District Courts as conferred in section 3 of this Article, so as to exclude causes arising from or</p>	<p>special order of the day; the contested election case of Gallagher vs. Tilton. Mr. MANN, of Tuolumne—At the request of the counsel for Mr. Gallagher, I move that the consideration of the special order be deferred until 1 o'clock.</p>	<p>were made out and certified to my friend Mr. Fisher can recollect duty; or how he can ever get accumulated sin over his shoulders of his constituency, I am</p>
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