

SITUATION OF AFFAIRS ON THE KLAMATH.—The reports of parties from the Klamath are so contradictory that we have been unable to form any definite opinion as to the merits of the matter, other than that the whites instead of hunting after the hostile Indians, have spent their time in quarreling over a few old Squaws and Papooses who were unable to get out of harms way. That however is now remedied, and we hope to hear of an immediate settlement of the whole matter. We append the following letter, which suggests the necessity of the establishment of a strong military post on the Klamath. Unless the superintendant of Indian affairs concludes to remove the Indians, a post should be established somewhere in that section. Why not remove the garrison at Fort Humboldt? They are of no more use where they are than if on the Plaza in San Francisco, unless it be to vote at elections:

ORLEANS BAR, Jan. 16, 1855.

SIR:—In answer to your enquiry as to the present situation of affairs in this section, also in regard to our future prospects I would say, that to my mind, both are deplorable. The men of Salmon River promptly answered the call of their brethren of the Klamath, and came on the stream for the purpose of hunting from the mountains such of the Indian foe as have slaughtered our fellow citizens. Judge of our surprise, when we were informed that it was in contemplation to make a general attack on the tribes, wheresoever they might be found. No exception was to be made, even those whom we had every right to consider as earnestly desiring peace, were to be included in the general massacre. Those, who had been disarmed, and who were resting in their ranches, and who, under the belief that our general faith was pledged that they should remain undisturbed, had placed themselves within the white man's power, these likewise was marked down for slaughter.—

pledged that they should remain undisturbed, had placed themselves within the white man's power, these likewise was marked down for slaughter.— To us, sir, the thought of farthering the proposition was, and is atrocious. I hope and believe the number, who for a moment would advocate the course of conduct, are but few in comparison to our general population. Aside, sir, from the infamy and gross moral injustice of such a course, if we regard it in its least objectionable point of view, I deem it highly impolitic, for most assuredly it would cause a coalition among the tribes generally. Restrain them from combining, and we can manage them—on the other hand should the folly or rashness of the whites force such a coalition, we may regard the mining and trading of Klamath as ruined, and that for an indefinite number of years. We are both anxious and willing to cooperate with you in bringing this unhappy feud to a speedy conclusion. But so long as this wretched spirit of disunity, (of which you have had ample evidence,) holds amid us, as long as this craving for the red man's blood exists, and the power is conceded to a few that they may at any time attack the Indians—let the influences for this be what they may, whether fear, hatred of the race, or simply that he is an Indian and helpless; so long sir, are we unable to aid you in your efforts or in any way act beneficial for ourselves. For the exertions on your part to day, to unite us, we are most truly thankful, but you have seen from the result that the pitiful number of but seven men can retain a whole community involved in difficulty, or even if at the present time these disturbances should be quelled, this same party, can in the future involve us in a like wretched position. Matters standing thus, I believe I express the wishes of all friends to peace and the public good when I say I deem a strong military establishment on this river as absolutely necessary for the preservation of our lives and property.

