

THE MENDOCINO WAR.

The "Indian war" in Mendocino county has been taken out of the hands of the settlers and diggers and is being vigorously prosecuted by the opposing chiefs of the military and Indian departments in that section. The field of battle is that bloodless one, the newspaper, but the signs and portents of the encounter bear a serious aspect, and the strife may yet end in bloodshed. Major Johnson, commanding the troops at Mendocino, has accused Superintendent Henley, in a report to General Clarke, which we published January 31st, of having "headed" a party of settlers who killed eleven Indians about the 18th of August last on Eel river, and afterwards acknowledged and justified the killing but adduced very paltry and insufficient evidences of the guilt of the Indians. Also, it was stated by the Major that "Colonel Henley approved of the course of this party and defended the acts of Jarboe and his comrades." These accusations, though they do not strike us as implying very broad-censure, are answered by Henley in a communication which we published yesterday. The Superintendent is somewhat irate, and makes several serious and heavy charges against Major Johnson, which it will be the duty of that officer to clear up, as he values the good standing of his reports to the General commanding, to say nothing of his reputation as a military man. His statements are denounced as malicious and false, and the Major himself flatly charged with cowardice. We perceive by a communication signed, evidently by a friend of the Major in San Francisco, that the latter is absent from his post at this time. A suspension of judgment is asked until he returns and reads what has been said of him. Lieutenant Dillon, who commands the detachment of troops at Round valley, also comes in for a share of heavy denunciation in Henley's

ment of troops at Round valley, also comes in for a share of heavy denunciation in Henley's response, the latter intimating that his, the Lieutenant's, case is to be taken in hand by the sons of the Superintendent, one of whom is accused of an act which, if true, should cause him to be shunned by civilized beings. This attack on Lieutenant Dillon is supported by the Mendocino representative in the Assembly, J. B. Lamar, who yesterday came to the rescue of that portion of his constituency reflected upon by the former in his reports to General Clarke. The war in this quarter commenced briskly; words of no less import than "base, false, malicious and indignant" being used to characterize the statements of the offending subaltern.

But though we much prefer that the battles in which the Mendocino Indians are concerned should be fought on paper and by the chiefs of the departments, between whom, somewhere, the duty lies of protecting these wretched creatures, we cannot consent to lose sight of the part which some of the white settlers in that region are playing. A few weeks ago we had a courier among us with the startling news that the Indians were killing settlers and stock over in Mendocino, and that the whites could not much longer hold out against them. The exigencies of the alleged war seemed to call for the immediate reinforcement of the settlers. It was made the subject of an Executive message, and a bill was drawn up and pressed with great earnestness, authorizing the enrollment of a volunteer company by the State, for the protection of life and property in Mendocino county. But mark how differently stands the case in the light of recent revelations. In the first place, we hear no more of the direful emergency and the call to arms. The communications which have passed between the Governor and the commanding General of the United States troops on this coast, put the facts in a somewhat different

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have passed between the Governor and the commanding General of the United States troops on this coast, put the facts in a somewhat different relation. It transpires that it is the Indians who need the protection, and not the whites; at least, the reports of the officers who are on the ground testify to this effect, under the most solemn assurances; and their statements are submitted to the Executive of the State, under the seal and sanction of the commanding General.

Among the Legislative proceedings of Wednesday will be found the copy of official correspondence, in reply to specific inquiries addressed to the officers in command at Mendocino since the commencement of this session. Gen. Clarke, in transmitting the report of his subaltern to the Governor, states that he is satisfied troops are not needed in Mendocino county. Lieutenant Dillon's report will be found well worth considering, notwithstanding the member of Assembly from that county thinks so ill of it. The latter threatens to have the Lieutenant and his detachment removed from Mendocino; but we doubt if he will find himself equal to the task, since Dillon appears to enjoy the confidence of the commanding General.

And here, without designing to interfere between the parties themselves, we might remark of Henley's communication denouncing Major Johnson, that it does not strike us as denying any of the allegations made by the latter in reference to Henley's part in the Eel river affair. In fact, as we have stated above, Johnson does not charge upon Henley the killing of Indians then, or upon any other occasion. He merely alludes to him as being at the head of the party of settlers who came to his (Johnson's) camp, after the slaughter, and also, of his justification of Jarboe and the other Indian fighters. These allegations Colonel Henley does not pretend to deny, and his card reiterates his approval of the
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THE DAILY UNION

FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 10, 1860.

UNION.

CURE.

vention would have the same weight in Congress at the present time? If the Democrats have a majority in Congress now—

Mr. ANDERSON—Have got it in the Senate, any how.

Mr. LAMT moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Public Morals, with instructions to extend the provisions

finding that sufficient, asks the Legislature to give him relief. Now, I am willing to help him to all that is right, but to the whole amount he claims—never. And I hope the Senate, notwithstanding the report of the Committee of last year and this year have favored this claim, will not lend themselves to saddle so in-

as to give the gentleman a chance to shoot his

Mr. GWINN knew the which it was as much as and to the possessors of for him to address any