

Correspondence of the Alta California.

SONOMA, March 2d., 1850.

Editors of the Alta California.—Gentlemen: Our little town has since yesterday been the scene of a tremendous excitement; but I trust the worst is over. Ever since the murder of Andrew Kelsey at the Clear Lake by the Indians, a party of men have caused much excitement among the peaceful inhabitants of this place and Nappa. On the 31st ultimo, a meeting was got up in Nappa for the purpose of driving all the Indians from the country. A party of twenty-four armed horsemen, mostly from the Red Woods, proceeded to Mr. Yount's rancho, set fire to the rancharie, and chased near one hundred Indians to the mountains; thence proceeded on to Fowler's ranch, and there shot down fifteen innocent Indians. After this, they passed on to Santa Rosa, chased the Indians from thence; came on to Jesse Beasley's ranch in Sonoma, and there killed two of his household, Indian servants; a third was fired at but escaped. The same evening, another meeting was got up in Sonoma for the same purpose. Long speeches were made, and it was partially successful in causing men and money to aid the other party. Fortunately, however, it was discovered in time to break up the scheme. Yesterday the party that is said to have killed the Indians, passed through this town, and threatened to hunt and kill every Indian, male and female, found in the country. At the suggestion of the citizens and military, the Justice of the Peace, P. Campbell, issued a writ to the Sheriff, commanding him to disperse the party; but they paid no attention and passed into Nappa Valley. Here they burned Nicholas Le Guerra's rancharie, and pursued his Indians some distance. The citizens of Nappa, hearing of these acts, met them on their way to Cayatano's ranch, and finally succeeded in arresting their progress. To-day a part of them returned to this place, and it is said a few have gone to the mines, fully equipped with saddles, horses, &c. A courier was dispatched from here, and two from Nappa to the Governor, for instructions how to proceed. The citizens are much alarmed, the mountains are full of terrified Indians, and it is feared they will in return kill every white man within their reach. How it will end, God only knows. VERITAS.

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