

Indian Affairs.

Since comparative quiet for the time being seems now to prevail in our country, and in fact throughout this Military District, so far as regards Indian affairs, and since the whole affair seems to have culminated in the establishment of a Reservation at Hoopa valley, where a large number of the hostile Indians with whom we have been for so long a time at war, are gathered, we have thought that any information pertaining to the subject would be of interest to our readers, and therefore give them such as we have collected going to show the present condition of that institution, and the future policy of the Government towards the Indians; as foreshadowed by the acts of its agents.

Every property holder in the District has tasted, to a greater or less extent, of the bitter fruits of this war, and will rejoice with heartfelt joy when the time shall arrive when he can say and feel assured that this curse has been forever removed, and peace and prosperity permanently restored. As we have said before there is a seeming quiet now. The residents on the outskirts are unmolested; the roads and trails are neither blockaded nor waylaid, and the Indians themselves seem tired of the contest and disposed to submit to the rule of the whites, with the exception of a few small bands, whose vigilance has thus far saved them from capture or annihilation and by whom depredations, it may still be expected will continue to be committed. How long this quiet will remain undisturbed, must depend upon the future course and policy

and quiet will remain undisturbed, must depend upon the future course and policy of the Government in the management of these Indians. There are nearly one thousand Indians in all within the limits of the Hoopa Reservation. Several of the chiefs who have led the hostile forces, are of these, and yet wield immense influence over their respective tribes. There are also, if we are correctly informed, some six hundred Indian prisoners held on the peninsula, and in charge of the military authorities at Fort Humboldt. The power that accomplished these results is necessary to preserve them, and to render them productive of good and secure a realization of the objects for which they were achieved. The advantage gained must be preserved. Any relaxation in the assertion of authority and in the exercise of control over these Indians, whether they be upon Reservations or held as prisoners by the military authorities will be attended with consequences fatal to a continued peace, and again involve us in a war in character more vindictive and destructive than any that have preceded it.

Whether or not the location of a Reservation at the point indicated was a wise or an impolitic measure we will not here discuss. We find one has been established, and that is sufficient; while it exists therefore we must receive, and deal with it as we find it.

The following documents will afford us some insight as to what has been done already in the premises.

A notice of which the following is a copy has been issued by the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and posted in the Reservation:

"To Whom it May Concern :

Be it known that by virtue of power vested in me by Act of Congress passed April 8th, 1864; and acting under instructions from the Department of the Interior,

ent of Indian Affairs, and posted in the
Reservation:

"To Whom it May Concern :

Be it known that by virtue of power vested in me by Act of Congress passed April 8th, 1864, and acting under instructions from the Department of the Interior, I have located and set aside for an Indian Reservation the following described tract of land to be known as the Hoopa Reservation: Beginning at a point where Trinity river flows into Hoopa valley and following down said stream, extending six miles on each side thereof, to its junction with Klamath river, as will be more particularly described by a map of said Reservation.

Notice is hereby given to all persons not to settle or improve upon said Indian Reservation excepting as the Agent in charge may permit, and in no manner to trespass thereon or interfere therewith.

Free transit through the Reservation will be permitted all travelers, pack-trains and stock, subject to such restrictions as the local Agent may see proper to impose.

Hoopa Reservation, Cal.,
February 18th, 1865.

AUSTIN WILEY,
Sup't Ind. Aff's, Cal."

This was followed by another from the local Agent at Hoopa which is this:

"All persons not engaged in the service of the United States, either in the Indian or Military Department, and not having special written permission to remain, are hereby notified that they must not be found within the limits of this Reservation after the expiration of ten days from this date.

A failure to comply with the requirements of this will subject parties to arrest and punishment by the military authorities.

By order of the Superintendent,

R. S. STOCKTON,
Indian Agent.

Hoopa Reservation, Cal.,

February 20th, 1865."

The rules and regulations which are to govern the local agent in the manage-

ment of the affairs of the reservation are laid down in the following instructions from the Superintendent:

~~COPY OF INSTRUCTION TO AGENT.~~

"Sir:—Until further orders you will confine yourself as nearly as possible to the following instructions in the management of the Reservation under your charge:

All employes are to receive orders from you, and obey them under peril of discharge.

All trains or travelers passing through the valley are to camp on the West side of the river, unless otherwise directed by you.

No person or persons will be permitted to bring or cause to be brought any distilled or malt liquors, or wine within the limits of the Reservation unless by order of the commanding officer of Fort Gaston, except upon the following conditions:

Pack trains, or travelers passing through the valley will be permitted to carry it in packages, but if any liquor or wine be sold, disposed of or given away by any traveler or packer to any soldier, employe or Indian, the party so offending shall be liable to arrest and punishment, and his goods, wares or merchandise confiscated, as is provided for by Act of Congress of 1834, which is still in full force and effect. This law also provides that Indian testimony may be taken against an offender when corroborated by other evidence.

When any general order, intending to exclude certain persons from the limits of the Reservation, be not complied with within a given time you will cause a written notice to be personally served on each individual to the effect that if within a given number of hours they are found within the limits of the Reservation they will be arrested and turned over to the military authorities for punishment.

Any person who shall sell, trade or give an Indian a gun or pistol, or in like manner dispose of any powder, caps, or lead, within the limits of the Reservation except with the consent of the agent, shall be arrested and turned over to the civil authorities for punishment.

No Indian belonging to the tribes included in the treaty stipulations entered

civil authorities for punishment.

No Indian belonging to the tribes included in the treaty stipulations entered into in August, 1864, and confirmed on the 8th day of February, 1865, will be permitted to leave the Reservation without a written permit from the Agent under penalty of being treated as a hostile Indian while without the limits, and arrest and punishment on his return. The Agent will be particular to impress this upon the minds of all the Indians.

When the assistance of the military is necessary for the execution of any order given by the Agent in compliance with these instructions the commanding officer will be notified in writing by the Agent that such an order has been disregarded (a copy of which order will be furnished the officer) by some person or persons and requested that those so offending be arrested, and such steps taken on the part of the commanding officer to compel obedience as in his judgment may be deemed fit."

The commission appointed by the Superintendent to apprise the improvements of the settlers in the valley have reported, as the result of their investigations, their value in the aggregate in legal tender notes, to be \$116,642 22. Contracts have been entered into between the Superintendent and each settler, by which the owner of each farm binds himself to deliver possession of his place when called upon, and the Superintendent on the part of the Government stipulates, in case Congress, before the adjournment of its next regular session fails to make an appropriation, providing for the payment of these improvements, to reinstate such owners in the possession of their farms, and to allow them compensation for their use.

In addition to this, such farming implements, tools, etc., as it would be difficult for the owners to remove, were appraised and taken possession of, with the understanding that if Congress failed to make an appropriation for the payment of such, the Superintendent will

prized and taken possession of, with the understanding that if Congress failed to make an appropriation for the payment of such, the Superintendent will either purchase them at the appraised value, or return them to their owners, paying for their use. The value of the property embraced in this list as reported by the commission, is \$8,413 50.

On the 18th of February, a supply of clothing, etc., received from New York, was distributed by the Superintendent, to the Indians.

THE HUMBOLDT TIMES.

EUREKA, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1865.
