

### Indian Affairs.

The people of this section of California have suffered so much from the depredations of Indians that they hail with joy any change in military matters which promises relief. The change, therefore, which placed Gen. Wright in command of the Department of the Pacific was heard of with satisfaction. His knowledge of Indian character was well known, and also that he was an efficient officer. The pleasure which his accession to the chief military command in California occasioned our citizens was heightened by his reply to their petitions for protection from savage barbarity. Gen. Wright gave assurance to our messengers that ample protection should be afforded; that a vigorous war should be prosecuted against the hostile Indians, that they should be conquered, and removed from among us. This announcement was immediately succeeded by the establishment of a new military district of the northern coast counties, with headquarters at Fort Humboldt; several companies were sent forward with dispatch, until we had a larger force prepared to take the field than ever before. All the indications favored the idea that at length the protection so long promised was about to be realized.

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Col. Lippitt was nominated to the command of this immediate district, and, although personally unknown to our citizens, the appointment was willingly acquiesced in. The Colonel arrived and as soon as circumstances would permit proceeded to obtain information necessary to the intelligent discharge of his duties. Considerable delay was occasioned by the remarkably severe weather but still matters were progressing as well, perhaps, as could reasonably be expected under all the circumstances, and those of our citizens who were suffering from Indian hostilities were waiting, with such patience as they could command, the movement of the troops to the interior. On the 6th inst. troops for several points were dispatched from Fort Humboldt to be in readiness for active operations.

Up to this time there had been a general feeling of confidence in Col. Lippitt, though individuals had learned that the same do-nothing policy which Maj. Rains had for years pursued was to be continued. Officers in command of outposts were to be hampered with orders which would render the presence of troops a curse instead of a blessing. This was not generally credited however, until the nature of the orders which Col. Lippitt had given to the officers commanding companies was somewhat understood. The Col. had concluded to adopt the plan of trying to persuade the Indians to submit, making use of a little gentle force. In an order to the officers in command at Forts Anderson, Lyon and Baker the instructions were to "capture and bring in all the Indians that could be found, whether men women or children." That the purpose for which the force was in the field was "not to make war upon the Indians nor to punish them for any murders or

men women or children." That the purpose for which the force was in the field was "not to make war upon the Indians nor to punish them for any murders or depredations hitherto committed, but to bring them in and place them permanently on a reservation." The officers of each expedition were to have strict orders to "effect the capture of such Indians as he might find, *without bloodshed*," and every man in the field was prohibited under the severest penalties "from killing or wounding an Indian, unless in self defence, in action, or by the orders of a superior officer."

At the first glance these orders would appear humane and were no doubt dictated by the best of motives. Those acquainted with the character of the enemy were aware, however, that they were not adequate to the task of removing the Indians; and that consequently, no benefit could be derived from the presence of a military force while thus restricted.

This policy has been tried and worn out, and each year the Indians become more bold and defiant.

Col. Lippitt has changed his opinion of the disposition of the savages, and now proposes to inaugurate a new system and prosecute a vigorous war against them until they lay down their arms and submit. The Indians are to be taught that they cannot with impunity murder white people, rob and burn their dwellings. Immediately upon receiving intelligence of the last depredations, published in another column, the Col. ordered every man into the field that could possibly be spared from Fort Humboldt, and left himself on Thursday for Angell's ranch, where Capts. Akey, Douglas and Hefferman were to concentrate their forces, and the following order was issued:

HEAD QUARTERS H. M. Dis'ct. }  
FORT HUMBOLDT, March 28th 1862. }

CAPT. C. D. DOUGLAS 2d Inf. C. V.  
Sir:—It is now certain that the Mad River Indians by their murderous attacks and outrages of the last few days, mean

prosecute a vigorous war against them until they lay down their arms and submit. The Indians are to be taught that they cannot with impunity murder white people, rob and burn their dwellings. Immediately upon receiving intelligence of the last depredations, published in another column; the Col. ordered every man into the field that could possibly be spared from Fort Humboldt, and left himself on Thursday for Angell's ranch, where Capts. Akey, Douglas and Hefferman were to concentrate their forces, and the following order was issued:

HEAD QUARTERS H. M. DISTRICT. }  
FORT HUMBOLDT, March 26th 1862. }

CAPT. C. D. DOUGLAS 2d Inf. C. V.:  
SIR:—It is now certain that the Mad River Indians by their murderous attacks and outrages of the last few days, mean nothing else than an open declaration of war.

Unfortunately there is no effectual way of teaching these ignorant savages the folly of such conduct, but by inflicting upon them a terrible punishment.

The Col. com'd'g the District, therefore directs that in the present expedition against these Indians destructive warfare be waged, taking care to spare the women and children. By order of  
COL. LIPPITT.

JOHN HANNA, Jr.,  
1st Lieut. & Adj't 2d Inf. C. V.  
A. A. A. G., H. D.

# HUMBOLDT TIMES.

COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1862.

<p>the vicinity of the bell, but none of them were very near it. All were gazing upon it, or up in the air over the bows of the vessel, with countenances expressive of mingled wonder and alarm. They made no reply, and once again the officer re-</p>	<p>"There is some mystery in this," said the captain. "The men generally are guiltless. Either some one among them is by some means playing on the superstitious fears of the rest, by some trick; or else there must be a ship near us."</p>	<p>and the officer in command threatened, if they did not deliver up their captives, to exterminate every man woman and child on the island. This threat, when they found that he was in earnest, had its effect. They ask-</p>	<p>Joseph Hott Secretary Sta deal of praise disposition of His ante-room with visitors</p>
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