

It appears that the commanding officer of the Pacific Division of the U. S. army, upon the representations of Governor Downey, has adopted a decided course of action towards the predatory Indians infesting the mountainous districts in this county. We publish this week the correspondence between General Johnson and Governor Downey, from which it will be seen that the former, in addition to sending all the disposable regular force from Fort Humboldt, Gaston, and Camp Bragg, into the field, has called upon the Governor to enroll a volunteer company of thirty men to act with and aid the U. S. troops in the capacity of guides. Immediately upon receipt of this requisition Governor Downey, with characteristic promptness, replied that the necessary orders for that purpose would be issued at once, and the men would report themselves at Fort Humboldt without delay. Accordingly, orders were received here by the steamer this week, directing the enrollment of "thirty men, experienced and familiar with the district of country infested by Indians, the same to consist of two sergeants, two corporals, and twenty-six privates" to be received in the service of the United States by the officer in command at Fort Humboldt, for the term of three months. A call has been issued for the assembling at this place, on Wednesday the tenth, of those possessing the qualifications mentioned in the requisition, and who are willing to enter the service as therein stated, for the purposes of enrollment.

The plan proposed of entering the service of the United States instead of acting independently as a volunteer company may be objected to by some, but when all the circumstances are considered such objection ought—and doubtless will—have very little weight with those who really wish to have this county rid of the curse

wish to have this county rid of the curse of predatory Indians. Many of our people have been compelled to quit their usual vocations and contribute their time and means in defending their lives and property from the attacks of these Indians, or in chastising them for outrages upon themselves and neighbors. This has been done as a matter of self-protection and after every effort to have volunteers called into the field had failed. This irregular mode of fighting these cowardly wretches, although it may check them for the time, cannot be continued long. Our frontier settlers cannot fight Indians on their own hook and provide a living for themselves and families at the same time. Hence it has been apparent for some time that a different plan of operations had to be adopted or the whites abandon the country to its former occupants—the diggers. As a last effort further petitions were obtained and R. M. Williams Esq., at the instance of many citizens, induced to go below to lay the matter before the Governor and urge upon him the absolute necessity of some relief being extended to us. The Governor although ever so much disposed to call out volunteers in the service of the State could not do so, with any prospect of having them paid, unless the commanding officer of the U. S. Army on this coast should fail or refuse to act in the premises. His first duty therefore was to inform Gen. Johnson of the state of things in this section, as presented to him, and that officer, unlike some of his predecessors, took steps at once to throw into the field all the available force stationed in this section. His letter informing the Governor of this was published two weeks ago. This ended all hope of getting a State volunteer company raised, but, upon proper representations to Gen. Johnson, he saw the importance of small squads of experienced mountaineers co-operating with the regular troops as guides to ferret out the Indians, and therefore requested the Govern-

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