

INDIAN WAR CLAIMS.—ACT AMENDED.—

At the last session of the Legislature an Act was passed authorizing the Treasurer of State to issue Bonds for the expenses incurred in the suppression of Indian hostilities in certain counties, and appropriating for the payment of said Bonds, a sum not exceeding four hundred and ten thousand dollars, "out of any money which may be appropriated by Congress to this State." to pay for such Indian hostilities within her borders. The Treasurer, Controller, and Quarter Master General were constituted a Board of Examiners to pass upon said claims before the Bonds could issue. This Act, it seems, was defective in limiting the appropriations for payment of expenses &c., to the expeditions of certain years. For instance, in Siskiyou county it only provided for the expeditions of 1855 and 1856, appropriating \$14,000 for the first and \$200,000 for the latter. It also appropriated \$10,000 for the Klamath expedition of 1852, and \$110,000 for the counties of Humboldt and Klamath for the Indian wars of 1855, without reference to any other years and not including the present county of Del Norte. The Act was further defective in not providing for the payment of spoiliations in certain of these Indian wars. As amended, the Board are authorized to audit claims for services rendered and supplies furnished for the expeditions against the Indians, and for property destroyed and losses sustained by Indian depredations since the year 1850—the amount of such claims for Siskiyou county, not to exceed \$200,000, and for the counties of Humboldt, Klamath and Del Norte, not to exceed the sum of \$120,000. The aggregate amount appropriated by the Act of last year is not altered nor the manner of paying the Bonds change, to wit: out of any money that may be granted this State by Congress. As the Federal government however, has always paid these Indian war expenses, when properly ascertained, it is but fair to suppose that the Bonds issued by virtue of the Act in question will be provided for.

We understand that most of the claims that could be recognized by the Board under the old Act, have already been acted upon—those which have been let in by the amendment just made will soon be disposed of. The Bonds are in such amounts as may be allowed and are made transferable by assignment.

