

## FROM THE EXTREME NORTH.

We make the following extracts from a letter to the Editors of the *Placer Times & Transcript*. It is well worthy a perusal.

GODFREY'S RANCH, Scott Valley, Siskiyou  
County, Cal., March 25th, 1853.

EDITORS TIMES & TRANSCRIPT.—Having returned on the 1st of March last from a tour to San Francisco and Suisan Valley, I believe I have been at home a sufficient length of time to communicate through the medium of your paper, the farming and mining prospects of this region.

During my absence there has not been much done in the way of the mining or farming operations.—The snow was very deep last winter, and provisions so scarce that it was a pretty difficult task for the citizens to get supplies sufficient to keep them along.

Provisions and goods of all kinds are advancing, and in some instances the prices have risen to a dollar per pound. Last week there was not a pound of flour to be had at Yreka at any price. This is owing in a measure to mule trains packing up seeds for farming purposes.

Sacramento and Trinity trains are both open to this place. Scarcely any snow is found on Scott mountain divide.

During the last month the weather has been delightful; the nights cold and the days warm and pleasant, just such weather as we have been wishing to continue to dry up the mud, so that pack trains will be enabled to travel with less difficulty, and freight get a little lower. Great anticipations are being made of an unusually large influx of provisions and merchandize, and a consequent decline in value, but the merchants appear to be holding on to the old prices as long as possible.

Farmers are now busily engaged putting in their spring crops and seed. About fifteen have engaged in this pursuit quite extensively. They are sowing principally barley, oats and wheat. One farmer will put in twenty acres to corn and squashes this spring. Owing to the scarcity and high prices of potatoes there will be but few planted. Vegetables here will never be under twenty cents per pound. Farming is the most sure business that a person can possibly follow in this country.

Although it has been dull here for the past winter, yet the better time is yet to come, when the ditches now nearly completed shall carry water through the dry diggings, and give employment to a large number of miners.

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Notwithstanding it is certain that there is a large class of people among us, for the most part newcomers, who have not yet had time or opportunity to take advantage of fine weather, and who are living from hand to mouth, on account of high prices paid for provisions, or upon the assistance extended to them by the hand of friendship.

There is a superfluity of labor in this county, and wages are down to fifty and seventy-five dollars per month, which at present exorbitant rates of provisions and board, is but a paltry pittance. It costs more to board a man in these hard times, than their labor is worth.

Sacramento and Pitt river Indians continue their hostilities and deprivations on the whites and their property. Whole pack trains of mules and their cargoes have been seized and destroyed by the Pitt river Indians, besides quite a number of white men have lost their lives. Packers who travel from Shasta to Yreka by the Sacramento trail, have to go in large companies to avoid being massacred by the desperadoes.

A detachment of soldiers from Fort Reading, accompanied a large train of packed mules, with government stores, to Fort Jones of Scott Valley, but did not stop in the Indian country to effect a treaty, or chastise them for their treacherous conduct. When will the American army officers do the duty of noble, manly men, and endeavor to suppress these difficulties at once. A voice from the uncovered graves of those men murdered by the Indians comes to them—"Cain, where is thy brother?"—Ten men in this vicinity have proved themselves worth more than a whole regiment of soldiers and officers, in fighting the Indians of California.

Yours ever, very truly,  
GROVE.