Indian Murder in El Dorado County:

We are sorry to be compelled to announce that the Indians in El Dorado county are again becoming troublesome, and that they have once more commenced open hostilities by murdering several miners. We are furnished the particulars of this unfortunate affair by Mr. P. Stillwell, formerly a merchant of Burlington, Iowa.

It seems that on Friday night last a company of miners, on a prospecting tour, were encamped about six miles from Johnson’s Ranch, above Hangtown, when they were fired upon by a party of Indians. A Mr. Wade, formerly of Rochester, Wis., was shot dead. Another gentleman, whose name we have not learnt, received a very severe wound in the neck, but is likely to recover; while a third has not been found since the murder, and is supposed by his companions to have been killed at the same time.

This lamentable occurrence is justly calculated to incite the miners to take summary and terrible vengeance upon their merciless foe. And who can blame them? The hardships and privations of the miner’s life are dreadful enough under the most favorable circumstances; but when is superadded to these, that of living in constant jeopardy of life, it assumes an aspect sufficiently appalling to deter the boldest spirits from the mines.

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Since the foregoing was put in type, we have received a letter from Placerville, signed "Hangtown," through Hunter & Co.'s Express, from which we extract the following additional particulars:

"On Saturday, twenty-four men volunteered to go out for the purpose of obtaining the dead body of J. B. Wade. On repairing to the spot where the attack was made, they were unable to find anything save a few bones and a heap of ashes. Hence the presumption is, that the body was burned. About this time the Indians made an attack on this party, who had to cross the river, (the North Fork of the American,) and keep up a fight while they were retreating. The Indians, supposed to number some 250, and mostly well armed with rifles, followed the party about four miles.

In this skirmish, a Mr. Clark, of Clay county, Missouri, was wounded, supposed mortally. Four of the enemy are known to have been killed.

Today (Sunday,) some of the skirmishing party are in town, endeavoring to raise volunteers, with the intention to go out and give them "a little more grape."

This is but one of the depredations of a like character, that occur rather frequently in this section of the country. It is not safe for a small party to go five miles beyond Johnson's Ranch on the emigrant road, so great is the probability of their being attacked by the savages in that vicinity.

It seems rather strange that the General Government is not willing, or able, to defend our citizens on the frontier. Where are the U. S. troops? Are they defending our frontiers and protecting our citizens, who are thus exposed to the merciless hands of these savages, or are they lolling in luxury and idleness at Benicia? Are the U. S. troops doing their duty, or are they not?"
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