Placerville, El Dorado Co.,
May 22d, 1851.

Mr. Editor: The blood of the white man has again been spilt within the borders of our country, and the honest, patriotic and true hearted Americans have shoulder-ed their rifles and gone forth to avenge the death of their brothers and companions. They do not go into the field expecting to be rewarded by the plunder of their vanquished enemy. It is a nobler feeling that actuates them, and such a feeling as should be found in the heart of every true American.

Although wholly unworthy our attention, we cannot avoid noticing some of the editorial articles that have lately appeared in the columns of the Placer Times. That they are undignified and unworthy of a place in the columns of any respectable journal, is very evident. If the editor, from ignorance, or stupidity, does not know any better than to utter his worse than Billingsgate, slang about the war on the borders of our county, it is time he was taught better. And if he will take the trouble to visit our mountain homes, we will teach him a lesson that he will not forget very soon.

It is useless to enumerate reasons why we are justifiable in prosecuting the present war upon the Indians that are daily committing murders and robberies almost within our midst. From estimates made by men familiar with the extent of the Indian depredations in our country, no less than $20,000 worth of stock has been stolen the past six months. Are we to remain idle and have our companions murdered, and our property stolen?
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Is not the General Government better able to expend a few thousand dollars in defending our property than we are to lose our all for want of proper protection? Read in the Times what Don Quixote Lawrence thinks about it.

Major Bell, has this moment arrived from head quarters of the battalion. Maj. Graham marched out on Wednesday morning, with 80 men, intending to cross the American river about 20 miles above Johnson's, and march down the divide between the Silver fork and the American river, and attack the Indians in the rear, at their ranchero at the forks of the river.

Capt. Tracy left this morning with near 100 men, intending to cross the river 10 miles above Johnson's, and act in concert with Maj. Graham. They arrived at the river about noon, and commenced felling trees into the river to cross upon. Soon after, the Indians to the number of from 200 to 300 came down to the opposite bank of the river and opened a heavy fire upon the whites. At the time the messenger left, the bridge was nearly completed, and Capt. Tracy expected to effect a crossing early to-morrow morning. Maj. Graham has not been heard from since he marched out, but it is expected that he will make his appearance to-morrow. Yours, "CALIFORNIA."
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