

News from our Indian Department.

The Indian campaign is progressing favorably. The mountains seem to be getting smaller and the hiding places for the skulking redskins becoming less tenable, or else increased activity prevails in Colonel Black's department. The frequency with which we hear of "Lo! the poor Indian" succumbing to the argument of powder and lead, of late, is gratifying to the citizens of the district, and evinces an energy and determination on the part of Col. Black, his officers and men deserving of commendation, and argues well for the success of the campaign.

On Thursday last we received information of a fight that occurred at Grouse Creek on the 22d, between a band of about twenty-five or thirty Indians and a detachment of troops from Companies E and G, stationed at Camp Lutqua, under command of Lieut. Geer, Company A, First Bat. Mt's, C. V. Our party did not suffer as severely as did that engaged in the affair mentioned last week, while the Indians received a severe chastisement. The Lieutenant would have met with still greater success had it not been that the Indian camp was mistaken for that of another scouting party of soldiers, which fact gave the Indians warning of their danger. So soon, however, as Lt. Geer became aware of the mistake, he ordered a charge to be made upon the camp, which was executed so promptly that the men were in the camp among the Indians before the latter had a chance to fire a gun. Nine Indians were killed and two squaws and two children taken prisoners. Three rifles were captured, one of which belonged to the soldier Mills, killed a short time since; also one horse, saddle and bridle, and other articles of property plundered from the settlers whose premises they have from time to time attacked.

There is a question about which much speculation has been indulged and opinions pro and con formed, which this affair just detailed, has definitely settled, and that is, "are there white men connected with the Indians who have been engaged in committing these depredations?"

It is now established beyond a doubt that such is the fact. It was the presence of a white man with the guard posted in front of the Indian camp that caused Lieut. Geer to mistake the character of the party he was approaching. The Lieutenant and his entire command are positive in regard to this, as they were

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The Lieutenant, as well as his men, regret exceedingly, that he should have escaped from a fate he so richly merits, but they would have had far greater cause for regret had one of their comrades fallen a victim through a want of proper caution.

Without wishing to draw injudicious distinctions, we deem it in justice due to the officers and men of this detachment to say that they are entitled to honorable mention from the Commander of the district, and to the thanks of the public for their zeal and energy displayed in this instance. The whole disposable force at Luqua had been out on a long scout and had just returned so much worn down that Major Wright hardly felt himself justified in ordering them immediately into the field again—the Indian sign having been just then discovered. Permission was asked and granted for a volunteer party. This call was so generally responded to, that the company had at last to be selected.

From another portion of the district we have cheering news also. We are informed that parties of Indians, to the number in the aggregate of about one hundred and sixty, have surrendered themselves as prisoners of war to Captain Hull, commanding at Fort Bragg, and are now on their way to Fort Humboldt. It begins to look in that direction as though the Indians had pretty well made up their minds that the "wauigies" are in earnest this time.

THE FOURTH OF JULY.—The 4th of July will soon be upon us, and it is time

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