

INDIAN MURDER.—On Monday morning Mr. Ball was fired upon and killed by an Indian. The particulars are as follows: Messrs. De Haven and Hall had been out on a camp hunt at the Buttes. Returning, in passing through a dense brush, Mr. De Haven, riding ahead, heard a single discharge of a gun and saw Mr. Ball fall off his mule. He dismounted and raised up the body, when the Indians raised a whoop. Mr. De Haven mounted his horse and fled, pursued by a number of Indians, who chased him some half a mile or more into the prairie. Mr. De Haven hurried down to Kneeland's ranch and informed Messrs. Gilman and Wilson who returned with him. In the short space of time which had intervened, the Indians had dragged the body some twenty yards from the road and stripped it of every particle of clothing, carrying off with them a fine rifle and a large supply of ammunition. Information was carried to Eureka and Union on Monday night and on Tuesday a party from each place met at the scene of the murder. The body had been again removed, but was found and buried, without coffin or shroud, save an old blanket. The murder was committed twenty miles south-east of this place and is believed to have been done by the Wager Creek Indians, the same who killed the Messrs. Cooper some two years ago. They left a large amount of "sign" in the vicinity. The fellow who killed Mr. Ball laid within ten feet of the trail. Mr. Ball was from Indiana and was aged thirty-two years.

From the proximity of the occasion—the death of our citizens, thus cut off in the midst of their trip was one of the most dangerous that we have ever undergone in California. We had rain, not a "pouring down" from night, accompanied at intervals both in size and quantity for the amusement of us as it never did before. The weather added to the fact of made a night's bivouac in the but pleasant.

