

A Word Upon Indian Matters.  
The new Indian Superintendent, Malt-  
by, has just completed his tour of inspec-  
tion of the Northern Indian Reservations,  
and has returned to San Francisco.—  
While he reports the affairs of the Res-  
ervation in a satisfactory condition, and  
the Indians thereof peaceably in-  
clined and contented, there remains  
still one matter connected with the sub-  
ject of Indian affairs of this locality, of  
more than ordinary importance, and one  
that we suppose will of course devolve  
upon him to dispose of, and that is the  
disposition that is to be made of the In-  
dians now held as prisoners on the Pe-  
ninsula.— We believe that whether peace  
or a renewal of the bloody and desolating  
war from which we have just emerged,  
shall result to us in the future will in a  
great degree depend upon the course he  
may adopt in regard to these, therefore  
to the citizens of this county this be-  
comes a question of the most vital con-  
sequence.— These Indians have been hunt-  
ed from their hiding places in the moun-  
tains from whence they have sallied out  
to prey upon the lives and property of  
our citizens, through the energy and  
perseverance of our noble mountaineers,  
they have been captured and held in safe  
keeping.— The time has no doubt now  
come when the military arm is to be re-  
lieved of its duty in the premises, and the  
Indian Department is to assume the re-  
sponsibility of their custody.— If the pre-  
vious policy of this Department is to be  
adopted in disposing of these Indians,  
then we may expect an end to be soon  
put to the peace which it is now our good  
fortune to enjoy. There is not an Indian  
on the Peninsula who is not perfectly fa-  
miliar with all the country from  
Round Valley to Smith River, inclusive,  
and to take them to either of those points  
would be little better than to release them  
where they are and permit them to re-  
turn to their old haunts, to renew their

and to take them to either of those points would be little better than to release them where they are and permit them to return to their old haunts, to renew their depredations at pleasure. Col. Whipple and others of the Battalion of Mountaineers, have, in times past, remonstrated against removing those Indians to any of the Reservations North of San Francisco, and that remonstrance still stands against such action. The former Superintendent, (Mr. Wiley,) made a like remonstrance. The people of the district too have from time to time, and still do earnestly protest against the Indians being thus disposed of. But we sincerely hope and trust that the policy of former years in regard to the disposition of captured hostile Indians, will not be again adopted. Upon the score of humanity, these Indians should not be removed from their present quarters to either Smith River, Hoopa, or Round Valley Reservations, or any other point, North of San Francisco. They may as well be turned adrift from where they are as to be removed to either of these. They will as readily reach their old haunts from the one as from the other place. Our citizens refuse longer to be infested with this scourge; they are now freed from it, the jungle and the thicket by every way-side no longer contain an ambush, life and property are now secure, and we are much mistaken if they are not determined this scourge shall never again return to them. To place them then where they will return to their old haunts, will but invite their slaughter whenever and wherever seen beyond the limits of the Reserves. We hope our people will be saved from so great a curse. We believe the Superintendent will truly represent this matter to the proper authorities, and we trust that he will recommend the removal of these Indians to a point, we care not where; so it is where they can never return. In the meantime let the people take such action in this matter as shall best serve to accomplish the desired result.

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