

THE BATTLE OF REDWOOD CREEK.—The
engagement with the Indians on Red-
wood was by far the most severe battle
that has ever been fought between whites
and Indians on this coast. Considering
the number and obstinacy of the Indians,
the great advantage they had in the
ground, and the fact that six or seven of
the whites were wounded at the first vol-
ley, it is almost inconceivable how this
handful of men stood up against such
fearful odds, with volley after volley
pouring in upon them from three differ-
ent positions which the Indians held.
In fact, we have no record in the history
of Indian fighting, where so small a num-
ber of men, but few, if any of whom had
ever been in an engagement, fought so
desperately, and for such a length of
time, to save their wounded comrades.
The two citizens who were with the
detachment of Company C, John Moffett
and Spear, Fort, did good service through-
out the engagement, Moffett, we believe,
being one of the party of five who gained
the hill, as the last hope, and drove the
Indians from their position. It was to
the unerring aim of two of Company C
and the daring bravery of the whole par-
ty that a single man escaped. One called
Missouri Bill, and another named Nelson
Leonard were dead shots, and brought
an Indian at every fire. Leonard shel-
tered himself partly in a pile of driftwood
and made every shot tell, though the In-
dians were firing at him from every di-
rection. From the best evidence that
could be arrived at it is conceded that no
less than six Indians were killed on the
ground, but they had no means of ascer-
taining the number wounded. One large
buck was found buried a few hundred
yards from the battle ground, having
been shot through the head by Leonard,
who called the shot when he made it.
The digger, it is said, was recognized by
a man from Hoopa as a Hoopa Indian.
The detachment of Company C who
went from Camp Curtis to the relief of
the wounded, accompanied by Drs. Spen-
cer and Miller, Rev. J. S. McDonald and
other citizens, did much to relieve their
sufferings, and never left them till they
arrived in Arcata. They are now at Fort
Humboldt, under charge of Dr. Egbert,
and getting along as well as the nature
of their wounds will admit. Some of the
wounds are severe and fears are enter-
tained for the recovery of two of the men.
We only hope that Company C will
meet with an opportunity to avenge the
misfortune of their comrades, and we
have reason to believe that they will do
it effectually when the chance is present-
ed.

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