

THE PIT RIVER INDIANS.—There is at the present time, says the *Atta*, a war of extermination raging between the whites and the Indians in the northeastern corner of the Sacramento valley. Most of these Indians belong to the Pit river tribe, of whom Lieut. Williamson, in his report on the survey of a railroad route from the valley of the Sacramento to that of the Willamette, speaks thus:

The Pit river Indians are very treacherous, and bloody in their dispositions, and disgusting in their habits. They are armed with bows and arrows, which they make with great skill. The bows are sticks of softwood, about three feet in length, backed with deer sinew. The arrows are made of three parts. The head is generally of obsidian, which abounds in portions of the valley. It is carefully shaped out into the usual barbed form, and lashed by deer sinews to one end of a small stick of hard wood, about ten inches long. The other end of the stick is inserted into the extremity of a reed, and also lashed with sinew. The reed is attached by the same kind of fastening. This weapon inflicts a dangerous injury, as the blood immediately softens the sinew, and on attempting to extract the arrow, the reed separates from the hard wood stick, which thus remains at the bottom of the wound. It is said these savages sometimes poison their arrows by exposing a piece of liver to the repeated bites of a rattlesnake, and after burrying it for a short time, smearing the point with the half decomposed mass.

Red Bluff Beacon.

3. RED BLUFF, WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1859. NO. 18.