

**"A Short Talk about Indian Matters."**  
We are informed that Cooper's Mill, on Yager creek, was again entered by Indians last week, who of course appropriated to themselves whatever they conceived would be of benefit to them—a few sacks and articles of lesser value. It is supposed that this occurred on the morning of last Thursday, or evening before, and most likely the same party of Indians that attacked Mr. Johnson's little girl were the actors in this affair. This is the the third or fourth time this mill has been similarly visited. At one of these times Mr. George Cooper, one of the brothers who built, and from whom it takes its name, was killed by them. It is situated in one corner of the valley, in an arm of a prairie, about two miles from Hydenville. About two years ago a small force was stationed there, and kept there until a short time since, which served to protect it against the inroads of the savages.

The recent depredations of Indians in that valley have justly alarmed its citizens, who now begin to entertain fears for their safety. It is, so to speak, at the base of the Bald hills, and is skirted by redwood forests, which serve as a hiding place and safe retreat for the Indians. Eel river and Van Duzen's fork, its tributary, flow through it; and it is a well known fact that Indians are traveling up and down these streams at all times. This being the case, it is not surprising that the people there should feel a little insecure. Eel River valley is one of the most pleasant places in the State of California, and has a soil which will compare most favorably with that of any part of this productive country. Already many valuable farms have been opened and comfortable homes established there, and it presents many attractions and advantages. But it is no exception to other parts of our county in regard to Indian matters. It feels the blighting effect of a savage warfare.

A comparatively large number of soldiers are stationed at Camp Inagua, in the Yager creek country, while the redwoods between there and this valley are peopled with our natural foe. We do not think it was the better policy to withdraw from the valley the small force which was stationed there, and think that the safety of its citizens demands that there should be a camp established either at Cooper's Mill or near the mouth of Van Duzen's fork. This is our opinion, and will give ample protection to this locality, and quiet the fears of its residents.

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We commend the consideration of this subject to the commander of this District, who will undoubtedly take the proper steps to give all needed security to the lives of people and protection of property in that section.

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