

INDIAN WAR CLAIMS.—At the last session of the Legislature, an Act was passed requiring the Governor of the State to appoint two Commissioners to examine all claims held by citizens of Klamath, Siskiyou and Humboldt counties, for services rendered, and for supplies furnished, in the suppression of Indian hostilities in the years 1852, 1853, 1854 and 1855.

In pursuance of this Act, Governor Johnson appointed E. J. Curtis, of Siskiyou county, and Walter McDonald, of Klamath, as such Commissioners. Mr. Curtis subsequently resigned, and A. M. Jones, of Siskiyou, has been appointed to fill the vacancy thus caused. The Act in question requires the Commissioners, after they have qualified, to publish in the newspapers printed in said counties, a notice to all parties holding claims for services rendered, or for supplies or ammunition furnished, to the troops or volunteers engaged in the suppression of Indian hostilities in said counties during the years above mentioned, to come forward and present them.

The present Commissioners, as will be seen by their notice in this week's paper, will hold a session in this place, for two weeks, commencing with Monday next, the 1st of September. Claimants in this county should therefore prepare their claims for presentation. The Commissioners go to Trinidad from this place, thence to Orleans.

The Act gives said Commissioners full discretion to determine the justice of claims that may be presented, and for the purpose of investigating the same thoroughly, they are empowered to send for persons and papers, and to administer oaths to any parties or witnesses who may be examined by them. No claims which have been allowed or cancelled by the State shall be presented, considered, or acted on by said Commissioners.

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as constituting any just claim. The commis-
sioners, after an examination of the claims
presented in the manner pointed out by the
Act, allow or reject, according as they con-
sider the same bona fide and just, or otherwise.

When the commissioners have completed
their labors, they are required to report to
the Governor the result thereof, embodying in
said report the claims presented and allowed,
and the Governor is required to transmit the
same to the next Legislature and recommend
such means, as he may think proper to secure
the same by appropriation from the General
Government.

The act intends the commission merely as a
means of ascertaining the correct amount of
valid and bona fide claims, held by the citi-
zens of these three counties, for services or
supplies in suppressing Indian hostilities.
When this is done and the data placed in the
possession of the Legislature, that body will
be enabled to act understandingly in the pre-
mises.

The payment of these claims devolves pro-
perly on the General Government, but, as a
matter of justice to the citizens, the State
may assume their payment and look to Con-
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induce the next Legislature to provide for the
payment of these claims in the same manner
as heretofore—by issuing bonds. Justice,
however, to our citizens in this section, de-
mands that our Legislature should provide
some means for the payment of these claims,
and particularly when found correct, after be-
ing thoroughly examined by commissioners
appointed for that purpose; and we have no
doubt the commissioners will discharge their
duties so as to do justice to claimants, and
also secure a favorable reception of their re-
port by the next Legislature.

