

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?—The question is put to us every day. "What are the troops in our country doing now?" We do not know any better way to answer these interrogatories than simply to say they are doing nothing. The only move we know of having been made recently is the ordering away from Fort Anderson of the detachment stationed there. This detachment, we learn, has been ordered to Fort Gaston. The Indians can now burn Minor & Saf's property on Redwood, which they will do when it suits their convenience.

Under the present management of military affairs in this District we cannot promise our citizens a speedy termination of our Indian troubles. Unless General Wright can furnish more troops and see that they hunt Indians in the place of guarding posts we shall have to try, when the Legislature meets to get a couple of volunteer companies from among our own citizens who will terminate the war in a short time.

HUMBOLDT TIMES.

REKA, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1862.

The Oath.

BY THOMAS BUCHANAN READ.

Swear on my sword,
 Swear, (below)—Swear, [Shakespeare,
 how long will ye still
 vengeance that justice inspires?
 treason how long will ye trife
 I shame the proud name of your sires?
 ut with the sword and the rifle
 defense of your homes and your fires,
 of the old Revolution
 or firmly to serve and uphold,
 an treasonous breath of pollution
 if I furnish one star on its fold.
 Swear!
 ark, the deep voices replying
 states where your fathers are lying,
 "Swear, oh, Swear!"
 moment who hesitates, barter
 rights which his forefathers won,
 tells all claim to the charters
 admitted from sire to son.

The Secret of McClellan's Popularity.

A Washing'on correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette, who does not conceal his dislike for Gen. McClellan, gives the following explanation of the secret of the great popularity which "the young Napoleon" of the war has with his soldiery:
 The secret of such popularity with the troops as McClellan has, is simple. He takes pains to be popular. In no unkind or carping spirit, be it said—he plays the demagogue with his soldiers. Every successful general, to a greater or less extent, does the same.
 There have been a few unfortunate things in McDowell's career that started him down. Then there was nothing in his personal presence to remove the unfortunate impression that had been cre-

FROM WASHINGTON TERRITORY.—From Puget Sound papers of September 27th, we gather the following items:

The Grand Jury at Olympia, last week, after a patient investigation of the charges against Victor Smith, found three indictments; one for malfeasance, in office, another for resisting an officer, and a third for assault with intent to kill. We learn that Smith gave bonds for his appearance for trial on these indictments.
 The schooner Putter, of Port Townsend, was yesterday seized by order of Collector Smith, for violation of a revenue law; said violation consisting, we understand, in the display of a flag while under sail, which it is lawful for none but vessels in the revenue service to exhibit. Lieut. Wilson, of the "Shubrick," has taken charge of the Putter, and sailed in her for Seattle this morning. Victor is on

TIMELY REMINISCENCE.—The Paterson, N. J., Guardian has this timely reminiscence:

It is a fact not generally known that during the Revolutionary War, when a citizen was drafted in Virginia, he was allowed to find an able bodied man as a substitute, and no distinction was made on account of color. Very many of the slaveowners sent their stable hands to fight in place of themselves or their sons, and history says these noble sons of Africa fought bravely and well, spilling their blood freely for our independence.
 After the war, these black soldier patriots desired to be free men, but their owners put forth their claims, in every instance; and the blacks who survived the war, after having served till our freedom was achieved, found out that there was to

SYMPATHY FOR A CORRESPONDENT FROM THE MEXICAN

For a long time a strong current of sympathy for the cause of the Confederacy, especially among the greater portion and ardent adherents of the Confederacy, should be so in as they must be tion of the Sou public by the l probability, be tion into their busters, irretriev injured to arms demoralized by cesses and rapid conducted on r