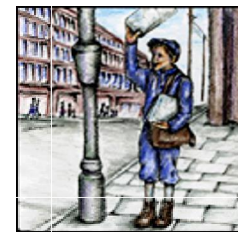


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Weekly Alta California, Number 20, 17 May 1849 — Latest from the Mine*. [ARTICLE]

Latest from the Mines.

[From the Placer Times of May 12.]

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THE PLACER.—The swollen state of the several mountain streams has deterred many of our citizens and strangers from entering the placer; but this should not be; the productiveness of the mines, even at this stage of the water, amply justifies labor, at whatever washing or diggings performed. Besides, the selection of suitable grounds for summer operations, will engage the attention of parties now setting out for the placer, and as this can be readily accomplished in most instances, for all the hindrance the waters present, we advise those designing to wash for gold this summer, and now holding back from entering the placer, *to go at once*. The hot weather and sickly season is approaching, when the exposure and fatigue of prospecting, or a search for the richer washings may not be so easily endured as at this time. They do well, too, who steadily apply themselves to labor, and in every section of the mining country from which we have received word a handsome yield has in scarce an instance failed to compensate the industrious and energetic for the drudgery performed. The fact is, that those who have shared in the prolific openings of new and rich discoveries (in which, by the way, the present year promises to be quite as remarkable as last) can with difficulty reconcile their gorgeous notions of gold getting to a simple sixteen dollars per diem, *clear profit*. The result of a few hours of the day occupied in labor serves to meet expenses, and with this and the prospect of perhaps *pound lumps*, they appear very well satisfied.

Upon Feather river, the farthest north of any of the mountain streams at present worked, new discoveries are reported to have been made, but very high up, and in a country almost too rugged to permit of travel. The gold from this river is invariably fine and

gold from this river is invariably fine and beautiful. We are satisfied, nevertheless, that gold digging cannot be carried on here with continual success without the aid of Indians.

Upon all the tributaries of the San Joaquin miners appear to prosper fairly, though nothing that will warrant us in speaking decisively has been received of late. We have heard that a party of Americans ascended the Tuolumne, a stream eighteen miles south of the Stanislaus, drove back the hostile Indians who have hitherto rendered themselves formidable to the whites, and were doing well at last accounts.

TERRIBLE SLAUGHTER OF INDIANS.—The murders recently committed by the Indians on the American river have, as we expressed it our opinion, so thoroughly aroused the miners of that stream and vicinity, that nothing short of an unconditional slaughter of the Sacramento valley Indians would seem to appease the thirst for vengeance; terribly has their revenge been visited upon that miserable people within the week past.

The Alcalde of this district received on Tuesday last a letter from Wm. Daylor owner of a rancho distant 20 miles from this place, and situated on the Cosumne river, announcing the arrival of a large party of armed Americans on his grounds, and who had shot down three of his Indians while employed in digging a grave. On Wednesday following it transpired that an organized company, formed at the American, had traced a party of Indians from the river until within about ten miles of Daylor's rancho, when, coming upon them suddenly, every man was instantly shot down, and the women and children taken into captivity. These Indians, it appears from the statements made by Daylor, corroborated by others, composed in part the mining troop employed by him, on the Middle Fork, and who had, hearing of the excitement caused by the murders on that stream, abandoned the work to seek pro-

tection in their own village, under the immediate control of their employer. We cannot state with accuracy the number slain, although it is believed to be not less than twenty. Three were killed a short distance from the house, while employed in digging a grave for a member of Daylor's family de-

grave for a member of the family deceased.

On Thursday the district Alcalde visited the scene of bloodshed, and was shown the bodies of eleven Indians in one grave. The Indians report twenty-three missing of their Indian men in all. What is reserved for the prisoners time will show. The Indians were without arms when slaughtered. By our next we may be placed in possession of further details, and corrections be required in the foregoing, all of which will be promptly presented.—*Placer Times, May 5th.*