

THE MURDER OF HOLT BY THE INDIANS.—The following letter gives full particulars of the murder of Holt, to which our correspondent from Deer Creek referred a short time since. As will be seen, this account comes from the most undoubted authority. Col. Winn will please accept our thanks for the trouble he has taken in furnishing the private letter of Capt. Day:

May 13th, 1850.

Sir: The following circumstances, in connection with the murder of Samuel H. Holt, a few days since, come to me from the most reliable source.

On the 7th instant, the Indians made an attack on S. H. Holt and his brother George Holt, who were peaceably working in their saw-mill on Wolf Creek, some twenty-two or three miles from Johnson's rancho; the former was killed, having ten or twelve arrows in the body, and the latter severely wounded, by about the same number, but his wounds are supposed not mortal. At the time of the attack the Indians had carefully intercepted the retreat of either from the mill to their cabin, where their fire-arms were kept, and George Holt therefore fled towards his nearest neighbor, James Walsh, some half mile distant, pursued nearly the whole distance by the natives. Their cabin was immediately robbed of rifles, ammunition, two gold watches, and many other articles of value; one of the guns being a double barrel, one a rifle, and the other a shot barrel—was marked with the name of Holt. The surviving brother represents that eighteen or twenty Indians made the attack. On the 8th and 9th their cabin was burnt to the ground, and one or two days thereafter the mill was also burnt, together with a large quantity of lumber.

To all acquainted with the Holts and their quiet and ever-friendly intercourse with the neighboring Indians during the past winter, this attack will appear most unaccountable; therefore, let the truth be known in explanation of the same. On the night of the 6th instant, ten white men (would that I could believe my informant, who calls them Americans) attacked a small band of natives, killing two of the number, under the impression that the Indians had stolen their cattle; but, behold, the next day, their cattle were found. The natives, ever eager for revenge, no doubt sought their earliest opportunity

for the same, and thus the Holts, from their isolated position, and their friendly, unsuspecting intercourse with them, allowed the Indians to come upon them in their usual friendly appearance; and the result is most deplorable, and, let me say, entirely attributable to the wreckless, if not cowardly, and certainly unjustifiable killing of two Indians, on a mere surmise that they (or some other natives) had stolen their cattle for subsistence.

The return of their lost cattle should have been a rebuke to these culprits, if not devoid of all conscience; and so long as such lawless acts are permitted on the part of miners or other inhabitants, so long will the public be horrified with stories of Indian outrages.

H. DAY, Capt. 2nd Inf.

COL. WINN.

[*Sac. Trans.*]

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**Piratical Seizure in the South Pacific.**

In our late files of New Zealand papers we find an account of the piratical seizure of the schr. *Helen*, on her voyage from Sydney to some northern port of the Australian colonies, which we transmit to our own columns. The *New Zealander*, of March 23, states to have seen the legal depositions of the passengers landed from the *Helen*, at the North Cape of New Zealand, and is furnished with the following information by the Captain:

As soon as the pirates had obtained secure possession of the schooner, they commenced disfiguring her as much as possible, by altering the parts of her which were before white into black, viz., roundhouses, gunwale streak, and the quarter-deck topgallant bulwarks. Her name on the stern was also obliterated, and the greatest care was taken to file the name from the telescope, wheel, and every other part where the name of the vessel appeared. After being confined in the fore-castle some time, Captain Griffiths managed to creep through the hold to the cabin bulkhead, and overheard from the conversation of the mutineers that they had kept off the north cape of New Zealand some time with the intention of capturing the missionary brig *John Wesley*, for which they are fully prepared, having swivels, muskets etc., stowed away in their chests, with an ample supply of ammunition; but, fortunately, they did not sight her. On the 26th December the whaling barque *Eliza*, and the brig *Sabine*, from Sydney to California, anchored off the Bay where Captain Griffiths and the others had been landed; and by the former they obtained a passage to Monaganui, from which they proceeded to Auckland. The *Sabine* resumed her voyage on the 27th December, and those on board were