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Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 4, Number 608, 5 March 1853 — News from the vicinity of Tehama—Indian Thefts — Terrible Vengeance of the Whites!! [ARTICLE]

Exciting News from the vicinity of Tehama—Indian Thefts—Terrible Vengeance of the Whites!!

Mr. G. C. Lusk, the express messenger of Adams & Co., furnished us with the following exciting news this morning at 1 o'clock, just as our paper was about to be put to press :

The Indians have committed so many depredations in the north of late, that the people are enraged against them, and are ready to knife them—shoot them—or inoculate them with the small-pox—all of which have been done.

Some time since the Indians in Colusa county destroyed about five thousand dollars work of stock, belonging to Messrs. Thomes & Toombs; since which time they have had two men employed at \$100 per month to hunt down and kill the Diggers, like other beasts of prey.

On Friday, the 25th ult. one of these men, by the name of John Breckenridge, was alone and armed only with a bowie-knife, when he met with four Indians and attacked them. They told him to leave, and commenced shooting arrows at him, but undaunted, he continued to advance, and succeeded in killing one, and taking one prisoner, while the other two escaped. He immediately proceeded to Moon's Ranch, at which place the captured Indian was hung by the citizens.

On Friday, the 25th Feb., stock was stolen from Mr. Carter of Butte county, to the value of three thousand dollars. Mr. Carter went forthwith to the camp of the well-known stage proprietors Messrs. Hall & Crandel, and thence started with a party of twelve men in search of the Indian depredators. After a fruitless search in the vicinity of Pine and Deer Creeks, the party became impatient and dispersed on Sunday evening. Returning home, one detachment of the party discovered a half breed by the name of Battedon, and took him prisoner. The man fearing for his own life, agreed to show the cave where the Indians were concealed, if they would release him. Notice was sent around and the people assembled again at Oak Grove on Monday, from which place they started at midnight for the cave.

Arriving there at early daylight on Tuesday morning, rocks were rolled into the cave, and the wretched inmates rushing out for safety, met danger a thousand times more dreadful. The first one that made his appearance was shot by Capt. George Rose, and the others

met the same sad fate from the rifles of the Americans. Altogether, there were thirteen killed; three chiefs of different rancherias, and three women. Three women and five children were speared; and it is but doing justice to say that the women who were killed were placed in front as a sort of breast-work, and killed either by accident or mistake. Captain Rose took one child, Mr. Lattimer another, and the others were disposed of in the same charitable manner among the party.

On Tuesday night, March 1st, three work oxen belonging to Messrs. Bull and Baker, were stolen from a corral in Shasta city, and on Thursday morning twenty-six head were driven off at Red Bluffs. Value near four thousand dollars.