

California Sept - 1853.

G. F. Beale.

Washington 21 March '53.

Use extracts from papers
of California about Indian
difficulties - Also extract
of letter of his clerk showing
that little reliance is to be
placed in said newspaper
statements.

Recd - 25 March '53 -

✓ File

Cont -

Washington, March 21st 1853.

Sequoia Esq; Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington,

Sir,

Enclosed I send you extracts from the San Francisco papers. - You will see by the enclosed extract of a letter from my clerk how little reliance is to be placed in these statements, and that the truth of the matter is, that so far from troops being in the field against Indians, they are out for the purpose of protecting the Indians from white aggression.

I am. Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant

E. F. Beale

MARIPOSA, January 31, 1853.

Mr. Editor.—On Friday afternoon last a party of 12 men from this section of country, and from the ranches on the plains below here, arrived at and camped on the main road at a place called Camp No. 2, and a party of 5 were detailed for the purpose of burying Starke. After discharging this duty, they descended in the distance what was supposed to be smoke. This they reported upon return, and at noon rose the whole party started for the rancheria, at which place they arrived about two hours before day, Saturday; and as soon as the heads could be seen, surprised them. The Indians stood first for about five minutes, uttering the war whoop, &c., then broke for the hills and rock. Their camp was burnt and many trophies taken. Deputy Sheriff Rhone was wounded in the leg, and several others scratched. They were the same red devils who killed S.

Yours, Respectfully,

A. S. CHURCH.

Correspondences of the Stockton Journal.

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 5th, 1853.

Mr. Editor.—With pleasant weather and a supply of water, the miners' camp are doing well, and reaping the reward of their toil. Within the past two weeks, in the immediate vicinity of the city, such been found, or

Stockton.

INDIAN NEWS.—In addition to the news given by us yesterday, we learn from the Stockton Journal that the Indians have attacked Fort Miller, and also killed Mr. Converse at Converse's Ferry on the San Joaquin, and carried off his wife into captivity. Mr. Hunter, who formerly made regular visits into Mariposa, from the Chowchilla, are now regarded as missing. There are only straggling ranches here and there, and nothing more than cover, and we get them in a terrible shape. We hardly consider them worthy

SAN JOAQUIN NEWS.

[PRE ADAMS & CO'S. EXPRESS.]

Indian Difficulties—Fight on the Chowchilla.

A slip from the Stockton Journal, by Todd's express, has a letter from Mariposa, giving the details of a fight between the Indians and some miners.

MARIPOSA, Jan. 31.

It appears that parties living on the lower Mariposa, and on the Ch'uchilla, have lost, during the winter, a considerable number of horses, and mules; without being able to discover the marauders.

At last a large fine horse was stolen, and being well shot, his large deep footprints in the soft earth led the party in search of him to the rancherias of about one hundred Indians, men, women and children, situated near the Chauchilla.

Two Americans, five or six in number, before approaching the village, dismounted and hacked their horses, and advanced on foot. The Indians seemed indisposed to parley, no sable, no zote, being their only reply to the quisti us propounded to them.

One of the party by the name of Starkie, perceiving some belligerent movements on the part of the savage, fired his rifle killing their leader, and fell himself almost at the same instant pierced with several arrows.

The fight then became general. Dr. Westfall was severely wounded in his pistol hand, and discovering that the Indians were about to cut them off from the entrance, they retreated, leaving Starke on the ground. A day or two after this event, another party returned.

And the Indians, who had taken alarm at their approach, fled from their village. The party burned the village, with all their provisions traps, &c., and retired.

The Chowchilla Indians are again in revolt against the whites, and it is much to be apprehended, from the account given of the disturbance, that the savages are not now to blame.

On the 20th inst. will be found in the San Joaquin Journal a full account of the recent disturbances of yesterday morning.

River News.—The steamer Marysville arrived at our wharf yesterday, after an absence of 14 days up the San Joaquin, transporting government stores. She carried up 20 tons to a point on the San Joaquin within 25 miles of Fort Miller, and the Captain is favorably impressed with the capacity of the stream for uninterrupted navigation, and he entertains no doubt that when the River and Tahoe Lake are connected by an artificial channel, the trade in that region will grow into importance. At present the lake discharges its waters into the river by an underground passage.

The San Joaquin is a very fine stream to the mouth of the Tuolumne, and even to the Merced, but beyond the mouth of the latter stream, the river spreads over a wide bed, forming numerous sand-bars and shoals. This continues for a distance of 120 miles, when the banks again bluff, and the stream becomes deep and rapid. The trade, however, will not remunerate the Captain to place his boat on for another trip, and he left with his party yesterday to resume his route upon the waters of the Upper Sacramento.

125-17

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Extract of a letter from
Mr. F. C. Herlin, dated Stockton
Feb 11th 1853.

"Capt. Crosby has just told me that he has received news from the Fort, in reference to the difficulty with the Indians. As I expected, - the whites have been entirely in the wrong, and the men who went and attacked the Indians can be placed under no other category, than that of murderers. - It appears that a horse's tracks were found leading to a rancheria and these wise men thought it conclusive evidence of his having been stolen, and went to the Rancheria and shot down ten or fifteen in cold blood, among them Raphael, the Interpreter. - The Indians after seeing several of their number fall, returned the fire, and killed one of them, after which they turned back. I understand that most of those killed are Indians living at Savages camp, but could hear no names. Alex. Godey was one of the men on the expedition against them, and came near losing his life.

The officers of the Fort are out with troops, to stop the settlers from committing any more outrages. The Indians on the Joaquin are all quiet, and are begging for protection. - It is really too bad that

those fellows about the Mariposa,
should be allowed to attack the In-
dians in this way.

The Republican is coming
out in a piece contradicting the for-
mer statements."