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[ARTICLE]

Trinity County Correspondence.

DATTON'S RANCH, Trinity, March 13th.

Eds. Union:—I give you a short sketch of my travels up in this country. I arrived at Red Bluffs, the head of navigation, and from thence went up the Sacramento river to Salmon creek, where I commenced prospecting. Could find from five to ten cents per pan; but the scarcity of provisions and the danger of the Pitt river Indians, placed it out of the question for twelve men to set themselves down to work. The Indians stole some of our boys' blankets, when we were only one half a mile distant from them. After we had prospected three days there came to our camp two men, who were well armed, and said they were on their way to the Trinity. One was named Bastrop and the other Drouillard. They reported the Indians hostile, and that we had better travel together, as it would obviate standing guard; and believing that we were right, five of us started with them for the Trinity. After we had travelled two days without any adventure, we arrived at an Indian ranch on Indian creek, and passed the camp, when Bastrop rode up to Drouillard and said there was danger here. Drouillard gave his opinion that all was right. We continued our journey down the creek. At night two Indians came into camp. Drouillard said it was our duty to tie them in camp till morning, for safety; but the majority said no, and we gave them some coffee, meat and bread. One of them asked Bastrop for tobacco, who said his partner had plenty, and pointed to Drouillard, standing with Dr. White. Drouillard cut one-fourth of a plug and gave it to the Indian, who then asked the Dr. for some, and received none, as the Dr. did not chew, when he threw that which had been given him back. Drouillard then took it and marched the

two Indians to camp and said we ought to kill them in self defence, which Bastrop agreed to; but the balance of the company were for humanity, and against barbarism: so Bastrop and his companion were overruled. Bastrop and Drouillard went out with the Indians, and came back to camp. Drouillard went to the fire and put it out, and said that the hill was full of Indians, and all must remain quiet. At daylight we were on our way down the creek, and found that Bastrop and his companion had killed the two Indians.

About three o'clock the same day, Drouillard and Dr. White were riding ahead of us a half mile. We heard the firing of guns, and all rode ahead as fast as we could, to ascertain the cause. We found Dr. White riding back, who reported that Drouillard was killed by two Indians. We rode on at a full gallop, and came up to the place, and found Drouillard behind a tree, unhurt, and two Indians shot, one dead. After we arrived, Drouillard straddled the Indian, and scalped him alive. Bastrop and him went out and had a private talk, (as they said) and embraced each other. Drouillard then came up and told Dr. White to get down from his horse, and defend himse'f, for he intended to shoot him. We all respected Dr. White, and would have saved him, but Drouillard shot a whole load into him, from the knee up to the hip, saying that "all puritanical sons of b—s ought to be killed!" We afterwards went on down the creek, taking the Doctor with us, who is now well. So ends my pilgrimage in the mountains.

Miners about Weaverville are doing well. J. R.