Pitt River Indians. — Sacramento Daily Union 10 November 1854 — California Digital Newspaper Collection

Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 8, Number 1134, 10 November 1854 — Pitt River Indians. [ARTICLE]
We find the following forcibly expressed article upon the condition of the Indians in the northern portion of the State, in the Yreka Herald. The policy recommended for the adoption of the Indian Agents in the State we commend to the attention of the gentlemen acting in that capacity.

We copy from the Herald:

The Shasta Courier of the 28th has an able and truthful article calling the attention of Col. Henly to the Indians on Pitt and McCloud rivers. These Indians have been a source of annoyance ever since the first settlement of this part of the country by the whites. More particularly so in the winter season, from several reasons. In the winter they have great difficulty in procuring enough provisions to keep body and soul together, then in that season the whites are compelled to travel on the Sacramento trail, and are thrown more amongst the Indians. It is the opinion of many that a part of the Pitt and McCloud river tribes spend much of their time in the season when emigrants from the States are passing, on the lakes, and are thus a constant terror to emigrants.

Our sub-agent, Mr. Rosborough, is a man of energy and integrity, but is destitute of either authority or means to make any arrangements with the McCloud and Pitt River tribes. The Superintendent of Indian Affairs and the General Government are to blame. Their attention has repeatedly for the last few years been called to these Indians, both through the public prints and by the sub-agents. They can no longer plead ignorance of the true state of affairs. The frequent and well authenticated accounts of the manners, customs, localities and depredations of these Indians have been passed over without the least manifestation on the part of the Government.

The frequent abuses on the part of those agents of the government in whose hands former appropriations have been placed for the alleviation of the condition of Indian tribes, and the many misrepresentations to the General Government for the purpose of securing appropriations that they may be stolen by the many political sharks who are always ready and watching for such a boat, has rendered it almost impossible to carry out the liberal intentions of our government towards any Indian tribes.

Unless the Pitt and McCloud River Indians are attended to before spring, much valuable stock will inevitably be lost by our citizens, and perhaps the lives of many whites. We again call upon our Superintendent of Indian Affairs to see to this. It can be all settled before the spring. Mr. Rosborough has not the means of taking care of his agency, and he is also a hard laborer.
is well be done now as any other time. Make a trip amongst these tribes. Indian agents are supposed to be mountaineers—men of perseverance, not too indolent to travel in the mountains—men willing to forego the luxuries of the cities for a short time, and live in the mountains. Our sub-agent possesses all these qualifications, and is ever ready and willing, but we repeat, is unauthorised and without means. They might as well send a man to kill grizzly bears with a pop-gun.