

# THE HUMBOLDT TIMES.

UNION, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 31, 1855.

**THE HUMBOLDT TIMES.**  
**E. D. COLEMAN, Editor.**  
SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 1, 1855.

**AGENTS**—Trinidad—J. & R. Merithew.  
Orleans—Francis B. Campbell.  
Klameth County—Jas. Strawbridge.  
Eureka—T. H. Foss.

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**THE ROGUE RIVER WAR—ITS CAUSES.**—The Yreka *Union*, of the 5th ult., says :  
" On Thursday last, [November 1st.] a party of sixteen men, under Mr. Tupper, of Shasta Valley, fell in with a large body of Indians in the mountains, dividing the waters of the Klamath and Shasta rivers. After a brief engagement, and losing one man, the whites were compelled to retreat."  
We learn from reliable persons, that the true version of the case is, that a party of Shastas, numbering twelve warriors, have resided near the Mountain House upwards of eighteen months, engaged in hunting; that during that time they have never molested the stock or other property of any of the farmers in that vicinity. Mr. Tupper and his party camped one night near the Mountain House, and "staked out" an old pack horse; in the morning the horse was gone, and, of course, "the Indians must have stolen him." Mr. Tupper and party waited until near daylight of the following day, and then stole upon the camp of the unsuspecting Indians, and commenced firing upon them; the Indians aroused, gained their arms, and



ing day, and then stole upon the camp of the unsuspecting Indians, and commenced firing upon them; the Indians aroused, gained their arms, and whipped the valiant party, who most ingloriously fled back to their camp, *where they found their old horse*, who had, in feeding, pulled up his stob, but had never been two hundred yards from the camp. The news of the fight spread through the country, and troops were ordered out from Forts Lane, Jones, and the Reservation, after the Indians.

A few days before the above occurrence, the Indians on the Reservation—a most miserable location, known in the Indian language as the “starving land”—obtained written permits from the agent to go up the river to catch salmon. They encamped near the house of a farmer named Wilson. While there, Wilson accidentally killed an ox, and having no use for it, he gave it to them. While engaged in cutting up and drying it, Lieut. Switzer, U. S. Army, who had been ordered out against the Shastas, came to them and advised them to return forthwith to the Reservation, as

against the Chinooks, and to them they returned them to return forthwith to the Reservation, as they might be mistaken for hostiles. They packed up and started back, getting within a few miles of the agent's house that night—the young and able-bodied men going on to the sweat houses, leaving the squaws, children, and old men to go in the next day with the packs. On the day before, while they were engaged in cutting up the ox given them by Mr. Wilson, who had gone off visiting, some foolish fellow passed, and "seeing what was going on, made his escape," and reported that "the Indians had killed Wilson, and were slaughtering his cattle in his yard." The alarm was sounded, a Maj. Lupton raised a company of ninety men, pursued after and surrounded the camp of squaws; they fired a volley into the camp, when the Indians fled into the chapparel, and returned the fire from guns, bows and arrows, some two hours, when one of Lupton's company espied a squaw, with whom he had lived on terms of intimacy, and called to her to come to him. She obeyed, and produced



guns, bows and arrows, some two hours, when one of Lupton's company espied a squaw, with whom he had lived on terms of intimacy, and called to her to come to him. She obeyed, and produced the written permits from the agent, and also assured the company that the ex had been given them by Mr. Wilson, and referred to him for the truth of her statement. She was directed to tell the others to come out that "they should not be hurt, that it was a mistake." The Indians, trusting to the faith of the white man, came forth, when they were surrounded, and twenty-one women and children, and three old men were ruthlessly shot down, the remainder making their escape. Lupton was shot by an arrow in the hands of one of the squaws, and mortally wounded; when dying, he wanted to know of the surgeon of the Post, who was in attendance upon him, "if he didn't think it was d—d hard for him to be killed by an Indian in that manner." The above particulars we have obtained from various sources, and are satisfied that they are literally correct, and that the Rogue River war is attributable to these causes alone.

Those having charge of the Indians on this coast have, by their neglect, a fearful responsibility to answer for; they have afforded neither protection to the Indian, nor to the whites, and appear to be indifferent to all, save the emolument and the opportunity to reward political partizans. They are ignorant of the character and situation of the Indian, and the position each family or tribe bears towards another. The agents, with few exceptions, treat all alike, and make no distinction between the affluent, influential man and the worthless.— While the rich Indians, those owning fisheries, canoes, skins, ranches, and *aligua* check, (Indian money) are opposed to hostilities, and prefer to remain at peace with the whites, there are, as amongst the whites, a number of *alliguas*, (loafers) "waiting for something to turn up," who are ever ready for any deviltry by which they hope to profit. The latter get into difficulties with the whites, and for which the "respectable" portion are made to suffer. After the commencement of hostilities the *alliguas* are the first to betray their own people, the rewards offered by the whites, and the hope of the plunder of their more wealthy kinsmen being the inducement. Before the agents can manage the Indians, they must become better acquainted with them than they now are.