

Daily Alta California, Volume 6, Number 261, 22 October 1855 —
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The rumors of troubles with the Indians of the Northern part of this State, and in Oregon and Washington Territories, come to us in various shapes, but are so far authenticated as to leave no doubt that the condition of affairs is such as to give occasion for serious alarm. It is said that fifty of our own people—men, women and children—have been killed by the Indians in Rogue River valley and the country adjacent, within the last two or three weeks. One account says that ‘volunteers are called from every section to assist in the extermination of the Indians;’ and another, that “Major Haller has called for a thousand men to aid him”—he being with a company of United States troops surrounded by the Indians (in Oregon) and in an extremely dangerous position. Two engagements—two battles—are mentioned. In one forty Indians were killed, together with Maj. Lupton, the commander of the volunteers fighting against them: in the other, Major Fitzgerald with eighty United States troops, encountered a large body of Indians, killing thirty of them, and lost ten of his own men.

In all this, we find matter for apprehending future and perhaps greater evils. It is evident that the Indians throughout the North have to some extent combined to “exterminate” the whites! And it is no less evident that the whites are preparing to exterminate the Indians. The result is not at all doubtful, nor shall we be required to wait long to witness its accomplishment. But although many Indians may be killed, and even the whole race “exterminated,” it is probable that numbers of whites, industrious, worthy

citizens, together with helpless women and children, will likewise be massacred. There is every indication that this will be a sanguinary war, and experience teaches that it will be a costly one. Still, the cost is not worthy a moment's consideration, in view of the necessity of the case.

We have had several "Indian wars" in California—two or three in the Southern part of the State, and one in Eldorado. But these have been generally merely speculative operations—expeditions gotten up for the benefit of a few persons. The General Government has assumed the expenses of these expeditions to the amount of about one million of dollars, so that the State, pecuniarily, is no great loser. But numerous wrongs were committed—wrong towards our own citizens as well as towards the Indians. We will single out no particular expedition for censure. But these troubles in the North, are far more serious than any we have heretofore had, and it is for this reason that we wish to see the United States troops called into action. If it is to be a "war," the General Government should manage it. And it is also our belief that a few companies of soldiers under cool and prudent officers, would do more towards restoring quiet, than a thousand volunteers, who, heated by the loss of relatives or friends, would fight for revenge and stop at no excesses. We believe the United States has troops on this coast, or can easily raise them, adequate to the quelling of any insurrection which may break out amongst our Indian population.

California, in its difficulties with the Indians, heretofore, has suffered enough. She incurred a heavy debt for very little purpose. This debt, as we have said before, has been assumed to the amount of nearly one million of dollars, by the General Government. But we are not sure that next time we shall come off so well; hence, we would at the outset urge that the United States take charge of these Indian difficulties. If there be not a force sufficient for the purpose already

here, let volunteers assist for the time being, but this should be done under the direction of United States officers.

EXAMINATION OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL.—A public examination of the children attending Public School, No. 2, will be held to-day, in the school room on the corner of Bush and Stockton streets. The exercises will commence at ten o'clock in the morning, and terminate at four in the afternoon, during which the scholars will be examined in every branch of studies pursued in the past quarter. On Tuesday, the exercises will be continued, but the programme will consist of more entertaining matter, such as singing, recitation, addresses, dialogues, etc. From the public report of this school, it is assumed to be an institution of which San Francisco may well feel proud. Mr. Denman is the principal.

CITY GOVERNMENT.—Both Boards of the Common Council meet to-night. The Police Ordinance, which was vetoed by the Mayor, will come up before the Board of Aldermen for action; but as the Board of Assistants has sustained the veto, nothing can be done. Mr. Beideman was appointed in the Board of Assistants, at their last meeting, to draw up a police ordinance, and it is probable his report will be submitted this evening. Both Boards are desirous to do away with the present system, and something will probably be done soon.

TO TAX PAYERS.—We are requested by the collector of State and County Taxes to direct attention to a notice in another column. As the statute requires him to add to each lot the usual charges for levy and advertising, (in case the taxes are not settled this week,) it would be well for persons interested to see to the matter.

THANKS.—We are under obligations to Capt. Collins of steamer *Cortes* for stopping his boat for our marine Reporter to board him, and to our old friend W. G. Smith, Esq., purser of the same, for his kindness and attention to our office in the way of Papers, Memoranda and Passenger list.