

# Daily Alta California, Volume 6, Number 268, 29 October 1855 — Fate of I •!. Freanrr. [ARTICLE]

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## **Fate of Col. Freaner.**

It will doubtless be remembered that Col. Freaner, who became known throughout the United States during the Mexican war as the correspondent of the *New Orleans Delta*, over the signature of "Mustang," left Yreka in June, 1852, accompanied by a party of four, intending to examine a route for a wagon road from that place to the Sacramento Valley. Col. Freaner did not reach his destination, and the conviction soon became general that he and his party had fallen victims to the savages of Cloud and Pitt Rivers. The particular circumstances attending the massacre have not until recently been brought to light.

Not long since, "Numtariman" the chief of the Cow Creek Indians inquired of Mr. George Woodman, of Cow Creek, if he ever knew anything of a party of four or five men having been killed by the Indians more than three years since, high up on the Pitt river, indicating the place on the river where Freaner would be likely to cross, and where some papers were found a year or more ago that had evidently been in his possession.

This chief's account of the affair, as given to him by the Pitt River Indians, is, that a party with two Indians had started in a canoe to cross the river, and when about half way across, the Indians leaped into the water, seized hold of the canoe and upset it. The Indians then from both banks of the river, (there being a large number on either shore,) commenced shooting their arrows into them, and thus massacred the entire party. There is no doubt the party thus murdered, was that of Col. Freaner and his men. There is little or no doubt but the above is a correct account of the sad affair, and doubtless it will be some satisfaction to the friends of Col. Freaner to know these particulars concerning his fate.—*Shasta Republican*.

**FREIGHT TO SHASTA.**—The *Republican* estimates that 700 tons of merchandise are delivered at Shasta every month, at a cost for transportation of seventy dollars per ton, or \$49,000 per month. About \$30 are also paid to the California Stage Company every month for the conveyance of pas-