

Shasta Courier, Volume 2, Number 3, 26 March 1853 — A Terrible Fight with the Pitt River Indians. [ARTICLE]

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A Terrible Fight with the Pitt River Indians.

Mr. John Neilon arrived in this place on Wednesday last, bringing information of a very severe fight between a number of packers and the Pitt River Indians on Sugar Loaf Mountain.

He arrived at the Sugar Loaf Mountain, on his return trip from Yreka, about noon of last Tuesday, in company with a party of 10 men and 40 mules, where he met Mr. Bruner, with a party of about 20 men engaged in a severe conflict with the Indians. He represents the mountain literally alive with these red devils, who had selected a position where they had every advantage over the whites, the only indications of their presence being a continual flight of arrows, accompanied by the most terrific yells. Mr. N. and his party—their mules being unpacked—fought their way through at once, leaving Bruner and his men to make good their way over the mountain. When Mr. N. reached the Back Bone, he heard firing in the direction of the Sugar Loaf, and supposed that Bruner's party was still engaged with the Indians.

The Indians had fire-arms, but did no execution with them, not charging their guns with a sufficient quantity of powder. One of Mr. Neilon's men, a Mexican by the name of Pedro Caino, had his left eye shot clean out. He is now in town under the care of Dr. Baldwin. Mr. N. also saw one of Bruner's party, a Mexican, severely wounded in the fight by an arrow. How many of Bruner's party were killed is not

known here at this time, no parties having arrived over that trail since the fight.

Mr. Durand, with a pack train, was met by Mr. N. about ten miles beyond the scene of conflict. He had two of his mules shot the same day, although he succeeded in saving their cargoes.

Sugar Loaf Mountain is about twenty-five miles to the north of this place, immediately on the Sacramento trail leading from Shasta to Yreka.

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