

# Shasta Courier, Volume 3, Number 3, 25 March 1854 — Tchuia Carrapsadocr. [ARTICLE]

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## **Tehama Correspondence.**

Tehama, Cal. March 18, 1854.

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**MESSRS. EDITORS:**—Incidents and dollars are exceedingly scarce articles in this immediate vicinity at this time. The former can be dispensed with at the price of dull monotony, but the latter is a "necessary evil" not so easily remedied. "Hard times and worse coming" is legibly written upon the phiz of every one, but more particularly upon that of the merchant as he pays the exorbitant demands of steamboat clerks.

The collusion of the steamboat companies is a move of the most ruinous character to the trade of the Upper Sacramento. Goods designed for a market beyond Weaverville, and hitherto passing up this valley and through Shasta, will, if the present state of things continue, be transported by way of Crescent City, thus depriving the former of an advantageous trade she has hitherto enjoyed.

The company is indubitably strong, and opposition therefore difficult. Where, or how will this extortion—for it is but little less—be stopped? Is there not a possibility of having an Act passed restricting the rates of transportation to a reasonable per centage, something after the fashion of Railroad stocks in the Eastern States? Some move is demanded, and we trust a salutary change will shortly be made.

We have had a little diversion here in the way of Indian hunting within the past two weeks. Recent descents upon stock, at different points, made it necessary to take measures for its security. Accordingly about twenty persons organized themselves under the direction of Mr. W. Williams—whose bronzed visage, iron-grey locks and trusty rifle have long made

hungry rocks and trusty fire have long made him a terror to the Indians—and proceeded to the mountains near the source of Thomes' creek. After an absence of three days the party returned, having succeeded in burning five rancheries and killing and bringing in some twenty-three Indians. If this is promptly followed up, as is intended, these pests of the mountains will soon be brought to terms, and stock secured against their depredations.

There are some beautiful little vallies back near the mountains which would soon be settled if these invasions could be stopped. There is little doubt but auriferous deposits will be discovered in these mountains, once the Indians are quelled, so that prospecting can be done with safety. The indications are favorable.

There is a ball on the tapis, to come off at the "Union" on the 30th inst., and it is confidently expected that the good time, so long coming will certainly arrive. There are some fair ladies about here and none could doubt the bravery of the men who has heard them expatiate upon the dangerous feats and valorous achievements in the late campaign against the denizens of the mountains.

The weather ia fine, and Fructador looks gay in his mantle of emerald.

Respectfully,                      KARL.

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