

Shasta Courier, Volume 3, Number 8, 29 April 1854 — Narigation of the Cpper Satrameala. [ARTICLE]

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Navigation of the Upper Sacramento.

On Tuesday last the Steamer *Belle*, Captain Johnson, prosecuted her upward trip on the Sacramento river to the mouth of Clear Creek, about fourteen miles from Shasta. Hitherto no steamboat had ever come further up the Sacramento river than Red Bluffs, which is about forty miles, by the river, below the point reached by the *Belle*. This trip establishes the fact beyond cavil, that, for a considerable portion of the year, the Sacramento river is navigable, not only to the mouth of Clear Creek, but even to the vicinity of the Middle Ferry, within six miles of Shasta.

From observations which he made while on the trip, Captain Gilman has expressed his conviction that by a judicious expenditure of a small amount of capital, the navigation of the river up to the point where he carried his boat could be rendered entirely safe and practicable. We have been informed that so long as the present stage of water continues, the steamer *Belle* will make occasional trips to the point above named.

On her downward trip the *Belle* stopped at the residence of Maj. P. Reading during the night.

The Major tendered her officers the hospitalities of the Upper Sacramento Valley.

PITT AND CLOUD RIVER INDIANS.—Our readers will remember that a short time since the above named Indians were very troublesome to the stock farmers on the east side of the Sacra-

mento river. At one foray they stole upwards of twenty horses and mules, and drove them to the mountains. For this they were immediately pursued, and when overtaken were severely punished.

It seems that this punishment has had a very good effect. No depredations have been committed since, and we are informed by Mr. Woodman, that during the last week a number of their leading men, or chiefs, presented themselves at his ranch on Cow Creek and sued for peace. He conducted them to Fort Reading, where they had a "talk" with the U. S. officers. In consideration of being let alone by the Americans, they eagerly promised to commit no future depredations.

These promises, of course, have but little more strength than "a rope of sand." They usually comply with their promises only so long as they find it convenient, or are kept *in terrorem*. But as the salmon and grasshoppers are becoming plenty, and as the forests and valleys are beginning to yield their annual harvest of acorns and clover, we may reasonably expect that, during the summer at least, these Indians will get fat and be of good behavior. And ere the chilling rains and biting frosts of winter begin again to pinch their naked bodies and drive them to desperation with hunger, we have reliable assurances that a military post will be established in their immediate neighborhood, and that a sufficient force will be stationed there to keep them in subjection.

REDUCTION OF RIVER FREIGHT.—We are informed by the San Francisco papers that the California Steam Navigation Company have reduced the rates of freight from San Francisco to Red Bluffs, from \$60 to \$35 per ton. This is a