

Shasta Courier, Volume 3, Number 50, 17 February 1855 — THE SHASTA COURIER. [ARTICLE]

[Back](#)

THE SHASTA COURIER.

Seven Indians Murdered.

Below we give an account, furnished us by a gentleman in whose word every confidence may be placed, of one of those gross outrages so frequently committed against the Indians by a set of abandoned, blood-thirsty, cowardly scoundrels, and which, in a majority of instances, is the primary cause of the frequent scenes of strife and bloodshed between the whites and Indians. Here we have seven Indians killed because they would not aid brutalized white men to prostitute one of their squaws. It may be that white men—white honorable men, we mean—on the first opportunity, may be made to pay the penalty of the acts of these scoundrels, either with their lives, or those of their wives and children, or with their property. Why do not the settlers in the vicinity in which this wholesale murder was committed, see to it that the criminals are brought to punishment? or why do they not whip the miscreants out of the county?

EDITORS COURIER:—As so many complaints are made against Indians, without the community being made acquainted with the merits of the different cases, further than the result, viz: stealing or killing, I feel it my duty to make the public acquainted, through your paper, of an affair which took place some three weeks ago near Hughs & Inskeep's Ranch, on the east side of the Sacramento river, and about 10 miles east of Major Reading's Ranch. Two men, one

named M—, the other C—, who were out hunting, feeling somewhat amorous, and meeting five Indians, insisted that one of them should take a shirt from them, and go to the Rancheria and bring them a squaw in return. The Indian refused. They then, with threats, forced him to go. They waited sometime, but he did not return, when they sent another Indian after the first, stating that unless he returned with the squaw, they would kill all of them. After the second Indian started, the remaining three Indians felt afraid. One broke and run; another attempted to do so, but a gun being cocked and pointed at him, he stopped. They then attempted to disarm the two Indians. They resisted, when a fight took place, the result of which was, that both Indians were killed, and M— slightly wounded on the neck. However, it did not suit those two gents to let the matter drop.— They pursued and killed five other Indians, guilty of no crime but that they happened to see them, and belonged to the same tribe of which the two murdered Indians, who refused to pander to their brutalized appetites, were members.

Is there no law that can reach such cases? Is there any Indian Agent who could investigate the matter?

The above facts are well known to every settler in the vicinity of Inskeep's Ranch.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

KING KAMAHAMAHA IN THE MINES.—Maj. Downie is writing a series of very interesting letters for the *Sierra Citizen*, relative to the early history of Downieville and the surrounding mining region. In No. XV he makes mention of the fact that the present King of the Sandwich Islands was once a California miner:

There was one Kanaka in our prospecting party that I ought to make mention of, as being of some note. He went by the name of John Wilson. I have since been informed that he is now King of the Sandwich Islands. While on the South Fork he was a sort of captain over a party, and arbitrator in matters of dispute.— When addressing us, he would strike his breast