Shasta Courier, Volume 4, Number 34, 27 October 1855 — – , —-. '1 T The Udine War. [ARTICLE]

Back

The Oregon Indian War.

By the Yreka Union of the 20th, we have further particulars of the diabolical acts of the Indians in Rogue River Valley. After finishing their horrible work at Mr. Waggoner's, they attacked the house of Mr. Harris. The Union says:—

When they began to gather around suspiciously, an Indian who had frequently stopped with the family and been kindly treated, come boldly into the house with a gun. Mrs. Harris said to him, "you are surely not going to help murder The Indian answered " No." but almost immediately raised his gun and shot Mr. Harris, who was just coming into the door, through the body, inflicting a mortal wound. He fell forward into the house. Just then their little girl, ten years old, received a wound in the arm from a shot fired by one of the Indians outside, as she ran into the house. This left Mrs. Harris in a most trying and horrible situation, and the heroic manner in which she conducted herself surpasses any of the recorded cases of female courage and fortitude which we have ever read. Her busband lay upon the floor dying, and a large party of inforiated savages without stood ready to rash in and finish the work of death. Mrs. Harris pushed the Indian who had shot her husband out of the door and closed it after The floor was covered with blood from the wounds of her dying husband and little girl. Mr. Harris, before he expired, instructed her how to load a small Allen's revolver. loaded and fired many times at the Indians, which kept them some distance from the house. Night came, and she watched for an opportunity to escape. The Indians withdrew out of gunshot, to induce her to come out so they could pursue and shoot her without danger to themselves. She took advantage of this and fled into the brush with her little girl, taking the

out, but by continuing to load with powder and fire whenever the Indians approached, she managed to keep them from charging into the brush. The next morning a few mounted men came by, and she called to them and the Indians retreated, and she and her little girl were rescued from their perilous position.

In the same neighborhood the honse of a Mr. Jones was attacked, and he and his wife both killed. The particulars of this we have not learned.

We have no reliable accounts as to the exact number of whites killed. In the Grave Creek region there are probably one of two other families murdered, who had not been heard from up to our last advices from Jacksonville. The number killed on Tuesday—men, women and children—we think was about 25, but some place it as high as 40.

A Duel.—An affair of honor took place on the 19th inst., at San Maeto, between H. B Truett and Austin Smith, son of ex-Governor Smith of Virginia. Says the Alla:—

The arrangement was that the parties should use Colt's revolvers-navy six-shooters; that they should be separated ten paces, and that after the world was given each party could shoot as rapidly as he pleased. In case either party was wounded he was to indicate the fact by dropping his pistol. Before the parties took position, the crowd was requested to retire a distance of about sixty yards, to which request an immediate compliance was given. The ground selected for the conflict was a spot about an eighth of a mile at the rear of Del'eyster's Hotel. -When the word was given the parties commenced firing rapidly. Mr. Truett discharged all his shots, and then, throwing the pistol from hiffi iff a flasty manner, taffied partly around, facing Mr. Smith. It was their observed that Mr. Smith had dropped his pistol, and was tottering as if about to fall. His seconds immediately went up to him and laid him upon the ground. An examination ensued, and it was found that Mr. Truett's ball had struck Mr. S.'s right leg, about eight inches above the knee. and passing directly through. Mr Smith fired all but one of his shots-he fired once after he