

to come down and *wipe them out*. The bloody attack upon them last winter, in which seven squaws and two children were killed, and several men and children wounded, gave them but too much cause to be alarmed by this report. They consequently fled from their camps to the mountains. Some boys of this band, residing with a gentleman named Moony, on Deer creek, were with him despatched to the Indians with a request to meet us in council. On the second day after, I had the satisfaction of seeing them generally come in, and arrangements were made for their immediate removal to the reserve, the consent of the Rogue Rivers being previously obtained. The details of a treaty were left for subsequent action. The same day, under the escort of Mr. Moony, they were on their way to the reserve.

A portion of the country claimed by the Applegate band was included in the treaty of purchase in September last, at Table Rock, but a considerable tract lay west of the country ceded, and John, the Patriarch of this band, who came in after the signing of the treaty and received a portion of the goods, had returned to this branch of his family.

For reasons set forth in agent Culver's report, these Indians have since been permitted to return to their old homes, where they still remain. With the exception of a few lodges near the mouth of Illinois creek, and Lympy's and George's bands near the mouth of Applegate creek, these bands have a controlling influence over all the Indians between Rogue river on the north, the territorial boundary on the south, the coast mountains west, and Applegate creek east.

I continued my route up Illinois creek to its head; across the divide to Smith's river, till within ten or twelve miles of Crescent City; thence southwest to the coast; thence on the coast to our southern boundary, re-crossing Smith's river fifteen miles north of Crescent City.

On Illinois creek and its tributaries there is considerable good farming lands, and a few claims are already taken.

From this creek to Smith's river, the country is mountainous and barren, with a growth of scrubby pine and spruce, and a variety of underbrush, and is wholly unsuited to agriculture. But the entire country from Jacksonville to the coast is a mining region, sown with gold, and as such is now extensively occupied. On the trail, being the great thoroughfare from Jacksonville to Crescent City, there are houses at convenient distances for the accommodation of travellers. Near the coast and along Smith's river are tracts of excellent land, much of it covered with a dense forest of redwood; many trees are over twenty feet in diameter. There are a few fertile prairies, abounding in various kinds of luxuriant grass.

About three miles north of our boundary line a stream empties into the ocean, designated on the map of the coast survey as Illinois river; the Indian name, Chetco. Here are many indications of having once resided a numerous people. In the fall of 1853, one Miller and several associates located land claims in this vicinity. They first built their houses about a quarter of a mile from the mouth of the river, to which the Indians made no objections. Subsequently, knowing that the newly discovered mines would attract a large population, they

projected a town speculation, formed an association, and selected a site at the mouth of Chetco river. The face of the country is such that the crossing must be at the mouth of the river by a ferry; here were two Indian villages on the opposite banks of the river, of twenty lodges each. This ferry was of no small importance. The new town site included one of the Indian villages, and when preparations were made to erect a house within its limits, the Indians strongly protested; but at last acquiescing, the cabin was built and occupied by Miller. Hitherto the Indians had enjoyed the benefits of the ferry; but now, Miller informed them that they must no longer ferry white people. They, however, sometimes did so, and were threatened with the destruction of their lodges if they did not desist.

In February last, the misunderstanding grew to such a pitch, that several of the men who had been engaged in fighting Indians on Smith's river, were called in by Miller and quartered in his house for nearly two weeks. Becoming unwilling to tarry longer, they were about to return to their homes; Miller objected to their leaving him till they had accomplished something for his relief, as on their departure he would be subjected to the same annoyance as before. Accordingly, the next morning at daylight the party, consisting of eight or nine well-armed men, attacked the village, and as the Indians came from their lodges twelve of them were shot dead by these monsters. The women and children were permitted to escape. Three men remained in the lodges, and returned the fire with bows and arrows. Being unable to get a sight of these Indians, they ordered two squaws, pets in the family of Miller, to set fire to the lodges. Two were consumed in the conflagration; the third, while raising his head through the flames and smoke for breath, was shot dead. What adds to the atrocity of the deed is, that shortly before the massacre, the Indians were induced to sell the whites their guns, under the pretext that friendly relations were firmly established. The Indians kept up a random fire from the opposite village during the day, but without effect, and at night fled to the mountains. The next day all the lodges on the north bank were burned; and the day following, those on the southern, two only excepted, belonging to the friends of an Indian who acted with Miller and his party. This horrid tragedy was enacted about the 15th of February, and on my arrival, on the 8th of May, the place was in the peaceable possession of Miller.

Seeing a few Indians on an island in the river, I took a boat and proceeded to that point, with a view of holding a talk. All, except an old woman and a small boy, fled on my approach. With these we could only converse by signs. I gave them some presents, and sent the boy to persuade the Indians to return. Another boy alone accompanied him back. I gave each a shirt, and sent them again, but no others could be induced to approach us. I left with a settler, who could converse with them; a few shirts, with some tobacco for the chiefs, and directed him to tell them that I would soon send an agent to see them. After the massacre, the Indians several times approached the settlement, robbed houses, and once attacked three men, but succeeded in killing none. Twenty-three Indians and several squaws were killed prior to my arrival.

Miller was subsequently arrested and placed in the custody of the military at Port Orford; but on his examination before a justice of the peace, was set at large on the ground of justification, and want of sufficient evidence to commit.

The details of a similar occurrence at Coquille have been laid before you in a copy of the report of special agent Smith, of the circumstantial truthfulness of which I am fully satisfied.

These narratives will give you some idea of the state of affairs in the mining districts on this coast. Arrests are evidently useless, as no act of a white man against an Indian, however atrocious, can be followed by a conviction.

A detailed statement of Indian affairs in the Port Orford district will be found in the accompanying report of agent Parrish. He enumerates twelve distinct bands, with an aggregate population of 1,511 souls, and includes them all in the Too-too-ton tribe. These bands, however, speak at least four distinct languages, and but few in each band can converse with those of another. Those grouped as one band often reside in several villages. These bands are scattered over a great extent of country—along the coast and on the streams from the California line to twenty miles north of the Coquille, and from the ocean to the summit of the coast range of mountains. I visited several bands in person, and directed Mr. Taylor to accompany and assist the agent in ascertaining the numbers of the remainder. Excepting the Chetcas and Coquilles, I found these Indians at peace with the whites and among themselves. They are willing the whites should occupy their lands, provided they are permitted to retain their fisheries, from which they mainly derive their subsistence. The chiefs wish their people to be taught agriculture, and a few have this season planted patches of potatoes. Tobacco has long been cultivated by the bands on Rogue river. It is well tended, grows luxuriantly, and is of a fine quality. These Indians are an athletic and robust race. The women perform much of the manual labor. Since the coming of the whites many of the men have entered their employ, and prove faithful and industrious. Chastity was formerly a marked trait of this tribe, and its violation on the part of the female was punished by cutting off the ears, putting out the eyes, and sometimes death. Sad changes, however, have taken place in this regard, and many serious difficulties have had their origin in the licentiousness of the miners.

The country along the coast from Umpqua river to the Ne-a-ches-na, a distance of one hundred and twenty miles, is occupied by five bands of the Tillamook tribe. They reside on the principal streams, and all speak the same language, and are peaceable, healthy, and well clad, assimilating to the whites in dress, obtained in their occasional visits to the settlements. White men seldom visit this part of the coast.

The Siuslaw band, instructed by a Frenchman residing among them, have commenced the cultivation of the soil, and have several well-tended patches of potatoes. Polygamy is common among them—one chief having eight, another six wives. Their wives are usually purchased from other bands, and often reside in distant villages