

when the others had got some distance in advance, one of the many Indians probably lurking in the sage-brush rose up and shot the horse with an arrow, the owner being killed in the same way. He had evidently broken the gun to keep the Modocs from securing it. As it was one of the cheap muskets it might have been better to have let them have it. Some one of them would probably have tried to shoot it off and been killed.

As the detachment was moving back to camp, and while on the flat some distance from Bloody Point, they were attacked by Indians. Unused to Indian fighting, they thought the best plan of defense was to ascend a small mountain in the range of hills to the left, and started up the sage-covered slope. The mountain was full of Indians; from behind nearly every clump of sage-brush rose up a Modoc warrior, discharged his arrow at them, and disappeared. Lieut. H. H. Warman was shot dead and several were wounded before they succeeded in extricating themselves from this ambush and made a safe retreat to camp.

The headquarters were then established at Clear lake and the active campaign was commenced. Scouting parties and detachments were continually sent out, who had occasional skirmishes with the savages, but no damage was either inflicted or received. With each little party went a field officer, and then most glowing and heroic accounts were sent to Yreka and thus throughout the State, of a great expedition under the personal command of General so and-so, or Colonel or Major somebody, which had defeated the Modocs in a bloody engagement and killed a great many of them. In fact, enough warriors were reported killed to have annihilated the tribes of northern California; the millennium of "good Indians" seemed to be at hand. One more soldier was killed in this sanguinary war. Corporal John Bond was accidentally shot by a trooper named Madden.

One squaw yielded up her life on the altar that gave honor and fame to the commanders of this army, and as she was the only Indian known to have been killed or even wounded during the entire campaign, it is fitting that the manner of her "taking off" be detailed. One of the numerous expeditions, this time headed by Gen. John D. Cosby in person, discovered Indian signs on an island in Tule lake, and a detachment was sent to investigate it, led by Captain Martin. When danger was to be apprehended the captains and lieutenants were pushed to the front, but at all other times the command with all the consequent glory and honor was assumed by some field officer. Expecting a skirmish at the island, it was at once thought that Captain Martin was good enough to head the detail that waded through the water to reach it. There had been a few Indians on the island but they made their escape, save one squaw who was shot by private Riley, while in the act of aiming an arrow at Captain Martin.

"It was a glorious victory."

Whenever "news from the seat of war" reached Yreka, the *Union* issued an extra with glowing accounts of the achievements in the enemy's country; these were copied by the papers throughout the State, and in this way the people of California absorbed

the idea that a necessary and successful war was being waged against the Modocs.

More interesting reading than one of the reports of these bloody battles cannot be found. It is clipped from the *Yreka Union* of August 7, 1856, and pretends to detail the facts of the first brush, in fact the only brush, with the Modocs, which have been correctly set forth above. In view of the truth in the matter it may be said to be quite rich:—

*First intelligence from the war against the Modocs—A series of engagements—Death of Lieutenant Warman and Sergeant Alban—The killed and wounded—Narrow escape of General Cosby—Loss of the Indians—The Indians numerous and eager for the fight—Brave death of Sergeant Alban—Incidents, etc., etc.*

Adjutant General Templeton, in company with several of General Cosby's command, arrived in town last evening from the scene of operations against the Modocs and Des Chutes Indians. On the 25th of July, General Cosby dispatched Captain Williams with forty-one men to the eastern coast of Klamath lake. On the evening of the 29th the main body encamped at the natural bridge at Lost river.

At this place the Indians were prowling around the camp during the night, and shot several arrows inside of the guard, but without doing any damage.

*The first engagement.*—The next morning, whilst on the march from Lost river to Camp Martin, on Clear lake, the advance guard descried a body of Indians about two miles distant, in the direction of Tule lake. The guard started in immediate pursuit. On arriving at the lake, they found a rancheria on an island about six hundred yards from shore, and about fifty of sixty Indian warriors drawn up for battle. The guard here dismounted, and charged on foot through the water, which was about three feet deep. Before reaching the island, the Indians made their escape in canoes. Their village, together with a lot of provisions, was burnt and destroyed. One Indian in this skirmish was killed.

*Second engagement.*—On regaining the road, a body of mounted warriors were seen descending from the mountain on the east, doubtless attracted by the burning of the island. The main command overtook the guard at this place, and Captain Martin, with twenty-seven men, started in pursuit. The Indians were well mounted, and for a distance of about fourteen miles the chase was hotly contested. They finally succeeded in gaining some high bluff, where they concealed themselves among the rocks, and the chase was abandoned—not, however, until Captain Martin's command had killed one Indian and shot the horse from under another.

*A Man Missing.*—On reaching the encampment on the evening of the 30th, it was ascertained that John Alban, of Company B, was missing. He had separated from the main command, and had been cut off by the Indians. Scouts were immediately dispatched to the mountains, and during the next three days and nights the most diligent search was made for the missing man. On the 2d instant his body was found horribly mutilated, his gun and revolver lying by his side, broken to pieces.

*Third Engagement.*—On the afternoon of the 2d instant a detachment of twenty-three men, under command of Lieutenant Warman, were surrounded near Bloody Point—where the lamented Coats lost his life in August, 1852—by nearly two hundred Indians. The savages immediately opened a heavy fire upon Lieutenant Warman's command, who were compelled to cut their way through them for the distance of several miles. The loss in this engagement was: Killed, Second Lieutenant H. Warman; wounded, N. C. Miller and A. McAllister. The Indians lost eight killed, and several were supposed to be wounded.

*Fourth Engagement.*—General Cosby, whilst on his way from Yreka to rejoin the command with an escort of ten men, discovered the Indians near the preceding engagement returning from the battle. General Cosby and party gave them immediate chase. They broke and fled to the mountains, but, finding they were being rapidly gained upon, they took up a position in a small grove of cedar near the base of the mountain. Here they maintained their position until they were driven to the bluff of the mountain. In this engagement one of Cosby's command was badly wounded. Eight horses were captured from the Indians, and several of their number wounded. The Indians were well armed with rifles, and mounted on fine horses.

On the 3d instant General Cosby reached the camp on Clear lake, named Camp Martin; here he found Captain Williams and the detachment that was sent from Willow creek to Clear lake. These had traveled five days around the lake, and during the expedition found a large body of Indians on the north side; but as they were near the water, and supplied with boats, they succeeded in making their escape to an island. Two horses were captured at this point.