

quently arrested three white men, C. A. Sherman, William McDonald, and a man named Baker.

At this time there was a Mr. Knight, a lumberman, living on Freshwater creek with a Wiyot woman. A Redwood Creek Indian, shooting at him and missing him, he went to some lumbermen friends of the same disposition as himself and with them made up a story to get an excuse for killing certain Indians whom they disliked. Captain Jim and San Francisco John were accused of having done the shooting, and a very ragged hole in the hat of Knight was, in the minds of the predetermined lumbermen, sufficient proof of the guilt of these Indians. Captain Jim's home was on Gunther island, but he was living at the time at site 58, drying fish.<sup>243</sup> Knight's squaw cried and said that her people had nothing to do with the shooting, but that it was a Redwood Indian. However, the whites would not listen to her pleading but attacked site 58. They killed Nicodemus, wounded Billy in the leg, and frightfully crippled San Francisco John with three or four bullets which broke his arm and jaw and pierced his side.

The wounded Indians fled for safety to site 31, while the soldiers took Dandy Bill, Peter, Henry, Ben, Joe, and Doctor to jail as hostages and sweated them for a confession of their knowledge concerning Captain Jim's shooting at Knight. Six logging men met Dandy Bill in the courthouse and urged him to persuade Captain Jim and San Francisco John to come to the courthouse past a certain clump of bushes at a certain hour. The two Indians, in a very weak condition, came of their own accord, but to avoid the bushes and the logging men they marched to the court house between soldiers.

A few additional details, learned from newspapers,<sup>244</sup> are to the effect that the attack on the Eel river village was made by eight or ten men on the morning of May 29, 1858. No mention is made of Kady or of Knight, but an assertion, apparently false, is made that "two innocent" logging men, Asa Jordan and John Mackey, were wounded with buckshot about four miles above Eureka on June 3, the very afternoon of the day that Sherman, McDonald, and Baker, "notorious" squaw-men, were arrested on Eel river. Though there were eight or ten men concerned in the attack on the Eel river village only these three, who were subsequently held to bail in the sum of

<sup>243</sup> See footnote 53.

<sup>244</sup> San Francisco Bulletin, June 22, 1858, copying Humboldt Times of June 12. A pioneer's account has already been given on page 269. Cf. also A. J. Bledsoe, *op. cit.*, p. 281.