

that his flour had been carried off and his animals also. Not a chicken was left, and his hogs, of which White had a great many, were all gone. His mill had been much injured. The leather bands and running gear had all been removed or destroyed, but he thought by the Indians. The wheat which White had on hand had been given to the Indians, and everything else that was not of value to Captain Hunter's men. The burrs are all sound and uninjured, and a few hundred dollars will put the mill in operation again. In his rambling way he reasons that the Pimas have now a large quantity of wheat on hand; that White had but little flour ground and put up, and his stock of wheat had been returned to them to purchase their friendship with, and that he knows that they have it, and will sell it cheap to any one who will furnish them with manta, being much in want of that article. They have but little appreciation of money, but for manta all their wheat could be bought at a very low price. The Pima chief told him that Captain McCleave and his party were taken at White's. He also learned at Tucson that Captain McCleave had arrived at the station this side of White's before day, and that he had tried to get the occupants to open the door for him, but they refused, thinking that they were some of their own men. He then went on to White's, getting there at daylight. Knocking at the door, he found a person who answered and of him inquired if Mr. White lived there. Receiving an answer in the affirmative he desired to see Mr. White personally. He was told that he should be called, and Captain Hunter, who was sleeping in the house at the time, was awakened and informed of an officer and two men of the U. S. troops being there. He came out and represented himself as Mr. White, asking Captain McCleave if those were all the men he had with him, to which the captain replied, "No; I have six more at the next station." In the meantime more of Hunter's men had collected, and Hunter suddenly drew his pistol and announced his being a captain in the Confederate Army, at the same time informing McCleave that he was his prisoner. McCleave had, however, thinking that he was amongst friends (seeing no uniforms), taken off his arms, and his men were putting up their horses. His story bears upon its face plausibility, and I have no doubt it is true, every word of it. The prisoner's name is Samuel Phillips, born in Ohio. He was confined in the insane asylum in Stockton for some time. I will detain him here for the present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWIN A. RIGG,

Major First Infantry California Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC,

San Francisco, March 31, 1862.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,

Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C. :

GENERAL: As the spring opens we have as usual the annually recurring reports of the difficulties with the Indians in the interior. From Fort Churchill I have just sent a detachment of 50 cavalry south about 100 miles to the town of Aurora and Owen's River to protect our people in that quarter, and to see that justice is done to the Indians. About two weeks ago a difficulty occurred between four white men and the same number of Indians; the latter were in the search of some horses which they had lost. The result was that the Indians were all

killed. Reports from that country represent that the whites were in the wrong; probably they were, but I cannot let the innocent suffer for the guilty. I am compelled to send troops to preserve the peace. The Mono Indians on Owen's River have always been considered a very harmless and quiet people, but they are numerous and highly excited at this time, and may possibly give us some trouble. I propose to send a squadron of cavalry from Southern California through the Owen's River district as soon as the mountains are passable. I have also reports of murders by Indians some 200 miles north of Carson City, Nev. Ter., and also east of Fort Dalles in the Snake River country but as yet nothing reliable. In the District of Humboldt, Colonel Lippitt, the commander, is in the field with most of his troops making every effort to collect all the Indians, and placing them on the reservations. Independent of our Indian disturbances the country is quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WRIGHT,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., March 31, 1862.

HON. WILLIAM P. DOLE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.:

SIR: I have perused with great care and much interest the pamphlet of Dr. Elijah White, embracing "testimonials and records, together with arguments in favor of special action for our Indian tribes." I fully concur in the reflections of Doctor White, as well as his suggestions as to "what can and should be done." I have served for nearly ten years on the Pacific Coast, and for six years past I have been in Oregon and Washington Territory, personally engaged in all the Indian wars during that period. My position and duties brought me in contact and made me acquainted with most of the chiefs, headmen, and tribes in that country, and my previous service of three years in Northern California and Southern Oregon enables me to speak understandingly on the subject of our Indian relations. A fruitful cause of our Indian wars has been the encroachment of the white people on their lands before the Indian title had been extinguished, and when treaties have been made for the purchase of Indian lands our people have at once proceeded to occupy them and dispossess the Indians before the treaties had ever been ratified. Such acts had, of course, a tendency to create a hostile feeling against the white people. Indians cannot understand how it is that one party to a bargain can avail themselves at once of all its benefits, while they themselves are left to await the ratification and tardy fulfillment of its stipulations by the Government at Washington. The foregoing remarks are specially applicable to the treaties with the Nez Percés and various other tribes made at Walla Walla in June, 1855, ratified some four years afterward, and as yet only very partially executed on our part. For ten years past the system of managing our Indian affairs on this coast has been a miserable failure. Vast sums of money have been appropriated by Congress and expended, but I have yet to see that any corresponding benefit has resulted from it, either to the Indians or the Government. Whatever plan may be adopted for the future, it should be of a permanent character, and the principal superintendents and officers should not be removed with every incoming administration. I have but a limited acquaintance with Doctor White,