

## MEXICANS KILLED AT LAKE TRINIDAD.

From a gentleman who was present and witnessed the conflict of Lieut. Cosby with the Indians near Fort Merrill we learn that on the same day these Indians made an attack upon some Mexicans at lake Trinidad, and killed Pedro Garza and also his son and two of his Cousins, and a third one who escaped, came running in and told our informant (Mr. Crawford.) He was nearly dead with fright, having witnessed two of his brothers slaughtered, and his uncle; it was some time before he could relate the facts. Mr. Crawford and several others immediately proceeded to the place at the lower end of the Lake, and found them all lying dead. They were evidently shot with Scopet guns.

He also informs us that much stock has been killed and carried away by the Indians in the neighborhood of Agua Nueva and the Blanco.

## TWO MEXICANS KILLED ON THE HONDO!

### *Families Moving to San Antonio!!*

From a gentleman who just arrived in our city from Castroville, we are informed that two Mexicans were killed a few days since, by the Indians on the Hondo, fourteen miles from Castroville, and plundered of all they had in their house and burnt it. He also tells us that the Indians are seen daily within a few miles of Castroville, and great apprehensions are felt by the surrounding inhabitants; cattle or horses straying off are soon killed or driven off.

The news is now current in town that the

Mexican Maromas, six or eight in number, who have spent some six months in San Antonio, delighting our citizens with their feats in rope-dancing &c., and who left here a few days ago, for Mexico, and also, the Italian Harp Players, six in number, who left here some eight or ten days since for Laredo, have all been killed. Although this last report cannot be strictly relied upon, still we fear it will prove true, as they left here unarmed.

From James R. Smith who has just arrived here from the neighborhood of the Leona, we learn that most of the families there have collected together for the purpose of being prepared for an attack from the Indians. They have been furnished with arms from the Government, upon one of the citizens giving security for their return. The citizens on the Frontier, are moving in daily. On the Attascosa several families have left, especially the women and children. From a family who arrived here on Saturday last, it seems that in their neighborhood some of the men have resolved to remain and defend their crops and stock or lose their lives in the attempt.

### MORE INDIAN OUTRAGES.

POST & HEDGES' TRAIN ATTACKED!!!

ANOTHER SEVERE FIGHT!

THREE U. S. SOLDIERS KILLED.

FIVE COMANCHES KILLED!!

TWO AMERICANS KILLED!

Over Two Hundred Cattle Run Off!!

By the kindness of Maj. Belger, we have been permitted to make the following extract from a letter to him from Captain Grainger, dated FORT MERRILL, May 8th, '54.

"Just at this time the country is filled with Comanches. On the 7th, Lt. Cosley of our Fort, had a severe fight with 50 of the Red Skins. He only had a sergeant and 10 men. Sergt. Burn and two men were killed, and Lieut. C. was wounded. The Indians stood their ground well and the engagement was desperate for half an hour. The Indians were armed with guns, bows, arrows and lances. Cosley's men only had revolvers and <sup>scars</sup> until their ammunition gave out. Five Indians were left dead on the field and as many more wounded. The fight was unequal—five to one—yet C. and his men charged through them repeatedly, several of the horses were pierced with arrows and lances. Within a week past, the Indians have done more mischief than within the last three years. They are chiefly Comanches, with a few Muscalaroes and Lipans.

From another letter we have the following names of those killed and wounded of the Government train, the attack of which was noticed in our last.

Killed—D. S. McIntosh, Jack McGuire, L. Pattersons, Perry Petty and August Sartor. Wounded—Powers and Ferguson—both recovering.

Mr. James Dawson arrived in our city on Sunday morning, 14 days from El Paso. Mr. D. has furnished us with the following memoranda of his trip in which is embraced information of value to many whose friends are on the prairies; and corroborates the opinion of the inhabitants of this place, briefly, but forcibly expressed, in the petition to the General commanding this District, that the valuable goods and property in transit between this place and El Paso requires, and is without protection.

Mr. D. left El Paso on May 1st; met this day Mr. Hedges, who left San Antonio with about 400 head of cattle,—had been attacked by Indians and lost two men. Ingram and and McLaughlin—the former pierced with two balls and fourteen arrows—and had lost all his cattle but one hundred and five head. On the 3d inst. met the train of Henry Huegenin 150 miles from El Paso, which had been stopped by about 100 Indians at Barela on the Lympea and detained over one day. The Indians refused to let him pass. The Indians were warriors, and had about 25 rifles; the balance were armed with bows and arrows. On the 5th he fell in with the train of Pyron & Edwards near Leon Springs. They had not been molested. On the 6th, met H. Matson's train at the head of the Escondeda creek—all well. On the 8th met W. Smith's train at Live Oak creek, travelling with a party of California emigrants, with ox-wagons, stock, &c. On the 9th met Skillman's mail at Howard's Springs; all well. On the 10th fell in with trains of Ronquillo and Varila, about 7 miles from first crossing of Devil's River; and in the evening of the same day met Fairchild, with 500 head of cattle, also Government train of Sanigues, bound for the head of Devil's River and Live Oak creek, with supplies for the posts at those places. On the 11th met a California party, driving cattle from Bell county, under control of Mr. Dunlap; had in all about 1900 head, but so carelessly scattered over the country as to be in eminent danger, as they extended nearly eight miles, but too short of hands to proceed.

This brief memorandum shows two things: First, that on the El Paso road from San Antonio, a vast amount of business is transacted and, secondly, that though Indians, trains of goods, droves of cattle, and California emigrants are often met, yet there is no troops.

We learn the following from R. J. Jones, of this place, who has just returned from Corpus Christi: On Wednesday last, the 10th instant, when six miles beyond Fort Merrill, in going, he saw twenty-five Indians coming in this direction. On his return from the coast, he was informed at the Fort, by Capt. Grainger, that an express had a short time previously come in, and reported that a party of Indians, about two hundred in number, had crossed the Nueces, at the Rocky Crossing on Thursday evening of last week, proceeding towards this part of the country. It is believed that the 25 seen on the previous day were a part of that number.

We are also in receipt of intelligence, that Señor Flores, living on a rancho about 35 miles below this, on the Goliad road, had his caballado of horses stolen recently by Indians as is supposed.

A rumor is also current amongst us that Don. Pedro Carrera, the Mexican clown and rope-dancer, together with his entire troupe, who has been recently performing in this place, were murdered by Indians on their return to Mexico, at some point beyond the Nueces.

(XT)

From our Extra of Monday.

## INDIAN OUTRAGES!!

ONE MAN MURDERED!!!

MAN AND WOMAN MISSING!!!!

PROBABLE MURDER OF  
FOUR CHILDREN!!

EXPRESSES SENT TO THE FORTS!

TROOPS AND CITIZENS IN PURSUIT!

On yesterday, about 3 o'clock, P. M., news was brought from Mr. Gallagher's rancho on the San Geronimo, about 23 miles from this city, that a party of Indians, (four or five in number and supposed to be Comanches,) had made their appearance at that place,—had killed and driven off a number of sheep, and that a man and woman, (the shepherd and his wife) were missing, probably carried off by the Indians. At the door of the tent, in which the shepherd lived, an arrow was found. The furniture, etc., in the tent, were scattered about, and a trunk broken open and its contents thrown out. From that place they then took their route over the hills in the direction of San Antonio.

This morning at two o'clock, Mrs. Forrester arrived in town from whom we gather the following later and more dreadful account:

Her husband, JAMES FORRESTER, had resided for some months past, on a small rancho 18 miles from town, a short distance off the Fredericksburg road. Yesterday between 2 and 3 o'clock, her husband was preparing to come to this city; a German neighbor, who lived about a mile off, had rode up and engaged in a conversation with Forrester, and during which time, a cow came running up with her sides pierced with several arrows. Upon seeing this, the German remarked that there must be Indians about, and that he would ride over home and pack up a few things he had and then return, as he was alone and that two men would be better able to meet the Indians, if they came, than one. He accordingly started off and had been gone ten or fifteen minutes, when three Indians, well armed with rifles, bows and arrows, knives and spears, made their appearance a short distance from the house and commenced calling. Forrester came to the door and asked them what they wanted. He did not understand their answer and told them to go away, that he did not want them about his house.

He had scarcely ceased speaking when his body was pierced by a rifle ball, and he fell dead at the door. His wife, on seeing him fall, ran out and raised his body from the ground, when finding him quite dead, she laid him down again, and rising was felled to the ground by a blow from one of the Indians, who by this time had run up to the house. She screamed as she fell, which attracted the children from the house. The Indians, on seeing them, rushed into the house, leaving her lying on the ground. She immediately started off to the house of the German, but the screams of her children induced her to return to the house, and there a most horrid sight met her view. Her two boys and little babe were struggling in the hands of two of these fiends, while the third seized her daughter, a girl of twelve years, by her hair and bent her head back, as if about to cut her throat or scalp her. She could no longer witness the heart-rending sight, but fled to the house of her neighbor, whom she met a short distance from his house returning as he had

On motion of Mr. Cobb, the Pacific Railroad bill was made the special order for the third Tuesday in May. The Minnesota Land District bill was read a third time and passed. The six first-class steam frigate bill was made the special order for the next day. The Committee on Territories was instructed to inquire relative to establishing libraries in the organized Territories. The House went into Committee on the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill. Mr. Cutting replied to the remarks of Mr. Breckenridge on Thursday previous. Mr. Breckenridge replied, and Mr. Cutting closed the debate with a rejoinder. Mr. C. attempted to prove that in moving to lay the Nebraska bill on the table, he did not kill the bill, but that it is alive and doing well, and in a fair way of passing the House. Mr. Breckenridge, on the contrary, maintained that the bill had been seriously injured, and was now in a critical position.

In the Senate on the 29th ult., the Deficiency bill was again under consideration, and received several amendments. That which produced most discussion was one having in view the prevention of frauds upon the Treasury under the invalid pension system.

This bill, it may be inferred, will now be pressed to an early decision, as the Senate yesterday refused to lay it aside to go into Executive session.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Disney, from the Committee on Public Lands, made a report adverse to the House bill referred to that committee, making a grant of public lands to the several States and Territories for the benefit of the indigent insane. The bill discussed in this report is somewhat similar in its provision to the bill which lately passed the Senate on the same subject. The report, as read from the Clerk's table, takes the ground that Congress has no authority to dispose of the public lands for that purpose.

Mr. Bennett presented a minority report on the same subject, which was not read. Both reports were ordered to be printed.

If an opinion can be formed of the strength of the bill from the refusal to lay it upon the table, a favorable augury may be drawn. The vote was 71 to 89. The bill was eventually referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The House again went into Committee of the Whole on the bill authorizing the construction of six steam frigates. Mr. Barksdale, of Mississippi, spoke an hour in favor of the Nebraska bill, and Mr. Norton, of Illinois, an hour against the measure. The committee then rose, without coming to any decision upon the naval bill.

In the Senate, on the 28th, a report was presented by Mr. Broadhead, from a select committee appointed last Congress, on some sixty memorials complaining of the awards of the late Board of Commissioners under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo with Mexico. The report does not affirm that any of the awards of that Commission were founded upon fraudulent papers except those to Gardiner and Mears; and, in reference to these, the committee recommend that the Executive be directed to test the hability in law of the parties who received the money to refund it to the Treasury. 6-24

The public sitting of the Senate was mostly occupied with discussion upon a proposition moved as an amendment to the Deficiency bill, to require the invalid pensioners of the United States to produce evidence of con-

**MORE INDIAN OUTRAGES.**

**GOVERNMENT TRAIN DESTROYED  
FIVE TEAMSTERS KILLED.**

**About One Hundred Mules Run Off.**

LEDGER OFFICE,  
San Antonio, May 8, 1854.

The following letter from a correspondent furnishes the particulars of a recent indian outrage:

NEAR FORT. EWELL, TEXAS,  
May 2d, 1854.

DEAR LEDGER: Thinking you might possibly be out of news, or had not quite enough of matter to fill up your interesting paper conveniently at hand, I thought I would give you a little of my time and lend you a helping hand.

About noon to-day, a teamster by the name of Mansfield, belonging to one of Maj. Chapman's trains of wagons for Eagle Pass (Fort Duncan) came into Fort Ewell, with the report that Indians (supposed to be Lipans,) attacked the train about seven miles from the post, drove off all the teamsters, wounding some, killing others, and then cut the mules out of the harness and run them off. There were fourteen or fifteen wagons, the same number of teamsters and a wagon master. (McIntosh,) with one other extra man. McIntosh was on a fine horse, and has not come in. It is supposed he is killed and his horse taken. Two of the wounded teamsters have since come in, and three not wounded, making six accounted for.

The commanding officer, on hearing the report, ordered out five different parties of riflemen—one of twenty men, under command of an officer, and four parties of ten each under command of a sargeant; with each of the latter also went one of the return teamsters as guides. As the Indians have only about two hours the start, it is probable they will stand a pretty hard chance of getting away; for on no occasion did I see men so quickly in the saddle, or show such an eager spirit for the chase. Pork and bacon, sugar and coffee, were scarcely thought of; in fact, a half an hour after the alarm was given, every man was in the saddle, and off at the word go.

*Four o'clock p. m.*

Since writing the above, one of the riflemen has returned from his party, and reports five dead bodies in the vicinity of the wagons, one of which he recognized to be McIntosh, the wagon master; the names of the other four he did not ascertain. He brought in a raw hide sheath for a lance or some other of the the Indian weapons. I believe the commanding officer will send out to-morrow for the dead bodies.

There is no more than ten or fifteen soldiers at present at the post. The other part of the command have been out sometime scouting, and are still out in the vicinity of Los Ojuelos, I think in three different parties, each under an officer. Two officers only remain at the post, one of which is the surgeon.

I will write to you again, and give you the result of the chase. The above can be relied on as all fact.

Yours truly,

RAMROD.

(X)

**MORE INDIAN NEWS!!**

**THE RETURN OF THE SCOUT!**

**FIGHT WITH APACHES!!**

**CAPTAIN MAGRUDER KILLED!!**

**FORTY-TWO DRAGOONS KILLED!!**

**LIEUTENANT DAVIDSON KILLED!!**

**A General War Anticipated!**

**FULL PARTICULARS, &c., &c.**

From Mr. E. Gallagher, who has just returned from the scout after the Indians we learn the following:

After leaving this place, on Sunday, the 22d inst., they proceeded to Mr. G's rancho. Arrived they took up the trail of the Indians, which led them in almost every direction, winding through the hills, sometimes to the North, then West, then South. Thus they were led about by this trail and at last brought up at Dunn's rancho. Here they discovered that they had lost the trail on which they had first started, and had taken that of some boys who had been out hunting, and this trail it was which led them to the rancho.

The boys had reported that they had seen 7 Indians in the Cañon de los Reyes. They took one of the boys with them to the place where he had seen the Indians to point out, as nearly as possible, the very spot. Having, by the boy's direction, found the trail, they followed it rapidly. After a time they halted and sent out the Indian trailer, Castro, and the boy, to see if any recent signs could be discovered. After they had gone, one of Lt. Stockton's men strolled off a short distance and discovered, on the summit of a hill about a mile and a half distant, a party of seven persons on horseback. The party of Lt. S. immediately started in pursuit, leaving two men to bring up the Indian and boy. They followed the trail to the crossing of the Leona. Here it scattered and they lost it. The Indian and his party having come up and it being near sundown, they took up a trail running back and camped at a deserted rancho for the night. Next morning they fell in with Maj. Howard's party, and they continued the pursuit together. They struck the trail again and following it to the head of the L'Acequia where they found the place where the Indians had camped the night previous. Having been riding all day without food or water, and it being then two hours in the night they camped.

The next morning Castro reported that from signs the Indians had camped and made arrows, near where they then were, on the day previous. Castro and the other Indian accompanied by a Mexican guide went out to cut for the trail, and, having found it, Castro sent the Mexican back to report, saying that they (the Indians) would wait until the party came up, and telling him at the same time to bring them something to eat. The Mexican obeyed the directions, but when the party arrived at the point where they expected to find the Indians waiting, they were not to be found. They followed the trail to the Hondo, from which place Maj. Howard sent in an express to San Antonio to have Castro's family retained in custody. Pursuing the trail they found a mule, which had been killed by the Indians, a little further on, they discovered a deserted camp, and between the Verda and the Hondo they found a dead horse, which they supposed had been killed about 4 hours.

They arrived at the Saco about 6 o'clk on Saturday morning, from which place Mr. G. took an express to Fort Inge from Maj. H. and at 12 o'clk that night Maj. H. and party also arrived at the Fort. He states that Castro had been at the Lipan camp the day before, and had sent Maj. Howard's horse, which he was riding at the time of his desertion, to the Major's brother, at the Fort. He says that upon delivering his despatches the commanding officer at the Fort ordered 25 men to proceed to the Lipan camp and bring Castro in. When they arrived near the camp Castro and his men fled. Old Chicito and a few men and women came down to the Fort and were, by Maj. Howard's orders retained in custody.

The general opinion is, that the murders and robberies have been committed by Lipans from the other side of the Rio Grande in conjunction with the Lipans of this side, and the Seminoles.

This is but an outline of the facts. We regret that want of space prevents our laying all the particulars before our readers, but should any developements take place worthy of note, we will present the whole in our next.

# THE WESTERN TEXAN.

SAN ANTONIO.

Thursday, : : : May 25, 1854.

R. D. Johnson, Esq., of Galveston, is our authorized Agent to receive and receipt for money due this office.

Mr John G. WIRE, 82 Canal street New Orleans, is our duly authorized Agent for that city.

From our Extra of Monday.

## MORE INDIAN NEWS.

### INDIANS OVERTAKEN BY McNALLY!

Mail Rider Taken and Robbed!



Mail carrier sent by the Indians on foot, to carry the news to Gen. Smith!!

### Indians near Corpus Christi!

An Express Rider Driven in Within Five Miles of the Town!!!

### FAMILIES ARRIVING DAILY FROM THE FRONTIER.

We have just received a letter by a friend dated Corpus Christi, May 17th, from which we gather the following interesting Items. It will be remembered in our paper of the 18th inst., we mentioned that four small companies had been sent in pursuit of the Indians who attacked the Government train near Fort Ewell, and three of them returned having heard nothing from the Indians, the other company under command of Sergeant McNally pursued them with immense speed, at least when following at this season of the year—they drove 80 miles in 24 hours without water, five horses gave out, and their riders were left with them. The rifles carried by the men were found to be much in the way and a burden to them, they were accordingly thrown away as they advanced. They at last came in sight of the Indians running them over hills and through thickets until they succeeded in taking from them everything they had—the mules they had taken from the train near Fort Ewell, and all *their own* mules and horses, equipage, paints, bows and arrows—in fact every thing. Surely this is one victory over the Indians worth while, and Sergeant McNally and his men should have honors showered upon them. This is the only way to do the business up brown.

### STILL LATER NEWS!

*A Mail Rider Robbed by the Indians, and sent by them on foot, to carry the news to General Smith!!!*

We have just been handed a letter dated Corpus Christi, Thursday morning May 18th, and from it we learn, that the evening previous, an Express Rider, (a soldier of the Rifles,) arrived there on foot, (!!) and reported that a party of Indians caught him near the San Patricio, and took from him his horse, and everything he had, *even the Mail*, and then turning him *loose*, told him to go back to Corpus Christi and give the information to Gen. Smith. The same night, the Mail Rider came in, a party under command of Captain Gibbs and Lieut. Witter left Corpus Christi about 9 o'clock, with a party of men to go in pursuit of the Indians. At the same time an Express was sent to Fort Merrill, with instructions for Captain Hatch to come down and meet Capt. Gibbs with another party, and to join him. This last Express Rider came back about 11 o'clock and reported that the Indians run him within five miles of Corpus Christi. At 1 o'clock the same night, Maj. Chapman, the Quarter Master at Corpus Christi, left with a party of eighteen teamsters to go in pursuit of this last party of Indians. Judge Neal and several others started out on the scout also, and when the express left for San Antonio the next morning, they had not returned.

### Special Order.

By the kindness of Maj. Belger we are enabled to place before the public, the following Special Order.

TX HEAD QUARTERS, Dep't of Texas. }  
Corpus Christi, May 10th '54. }  
SPECIAL ORDER, No. 61.

I. A scouting party will be sent from Fort Merrill in the direction of San Antonio, and twenty one men being retained at the fort the remainder of the garrison will be sent to reinforce the parties already out, to twenty five men, if possible.

II. The parties in the field from Fort Ewell, will in like manner be reinforced by the whole force at that fort excepting thirty five men retained to occupy it.

III. At Fort Inge one Company will remain at the post and the remainder will be ordered out. One company to scout in the direction of the Rio Frio passes and the balance between the Nueces and the Rio Grande.

IV. At Ringgold Barracks the artillery Company and twenty five infantry men, will remain at the fort, one company will occupy some suitable watering place about thirty miles to the interior, and the other companies, one at each, will occupying crossing places on the river above Roma.

V. At Fort McIntosh the company of artillery and one company of Infantry will remain at the fort. One company of Infantry will occupy a watering place on the road to Fort Ewell, and another a position some fifteen or twenty miles below that road. The other companies of the garrison will occupying passes on the river, two above and three below the post, and at distances of about twenty miles apart, if in other respects suitable.

VI. At Fort Duncan the Artillery company will occupy the post. Two Infantry companies will occupy watering places twenty or thirty miles in the interior and the remaining companies of Infantry will be stationed below and as far above the fort as the mouth of Las Moras creek.

VII. At Fort Clark, one company will remain at the post and the other will occupy the pass in the hills on the trail between that post and the fork of the Nueces. (on the road by which the General Comanding came from Fort Teritt to Fort Clark last year).

VIII. The several posts above indicated will have supplies for two months calculating for their own garrisons and for the weekly visits of a company of Riflemen requiring provisions and forage for ten days. As soon as the Infantry companies are established information of their positions will be sent from point to point to the permanent and temporary posts and to the scouting parties both for the purpose of combination in the pursuit of Indians and in order that the scouting parties may know where they can replenish their supplies. All the posts both permanent and temporary will keep small scouting parties constantly out in their neighborhood; and any intelligence that may possibly tend to the discovery and punishment of the Indians will be immediately communicated to the neighboring posts and scouts.

IX. All the mounted Riflemen not retained at the permanent posts agreeable to the foregoing arrangements will be kept in constant motion, to intercept the Indians now between the Nueces and the Rio Grande. The country will be thoroughly scoured in all directions and particularly between the Rio Frio and the Nueces and the Rio Frio and Attascosa. As far as practicable, information will be sent daily from each party to those nearest, so that they may concert for the object in view, and concentrate promptly if necessary. The several parties of Riflemen will if possible be strengthened so as to number not less than twenty five men. Reliable guides will be employed for the several posts and scouting parties.

X. If the parties from the Battalion of Infantry near San Antonio should have returned to that place, they will immediately be dispatched again to the Banquera Uvalde and other passes, upon which they are directed in Special Order No. 52, between the Nueces and Gaudaloupe rivers. Any information of the presence of Indians in the South West will be sent by special expresses to those detachments and also the Northern posts.

XI. These dispositions will continue in force until further orders, and the General Comanding the Department relies upon the zeal and professional pride of every officer and soldier to give them effect. No means or exertion must be spared to intercept the Indians now between the Rio Grande and Nueces.

By order of Brigadier Major General Percifer F. Smith

(Signed)

D. C. BUELL, Adj. Gen.