

INDENTURING INDIANS—A NICE SYSTEM OF SLAVERY.

RED BLUFF, January 30, 1861.

EDITORS UNION: As the meaning and intent, as well as the constitutionality of the Act passed last Winter in regard to indenturing Indians without their consent, or even apprising them of the fact, but by simply calling on the County or District Judge, with a list, and having him sign it officially—has been doubted by many, I send you a copy of an indenture, now on file in the Clerk's office in Tehama county. The Indians named therein are not prisoners of war, or vagrant Indians, but belong to the Nome Lackee tribe, that have been taught to work, at a cost to Government of about three hundred thousand dollars. And the persons to whom they are indentured have been receiving as salaries from Government, four hundred and seventy-five dollars per month, for nearly four years past.

It may be true that they were in their possession at that date, as they claimed to be in possession of the Reserve. They were most of them on the Reservation, and not ten per cent. of them have ever seen their humane (?) guardian that, "at the instance and request" of Titus and Geiger, made them slaves, without the semblance of a bond to clothe, feed and protect them.

I hope our representatives from this county will attend to this law, and have it either explained or repealed. W.

"This indenture, made this 29th day of December, 1860, witnesseth: that I, Newel Hall, Judge of the county of Tehama, State of California, under and by virtue of the provisions of the laws of the State of California conferring such power, have this day, on application of F. J. Titus and V. E. Geiger, partners in ranching in the county and State aforesaid, and who now have charge of and who are in possession of certain Indians hereinafter named, and at their request and instance do hereby, by virtue of the authority in me vested as said County Judge, bind and apprentice to them the following named and described Indians, to wit:

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Till When Bound.</i>		
Simon.....	17	30	years of age.	
Big Jack.....	20	30	do	do
Jackson.....	20	30	do	do
Jack White.....	16	30	do	do
Joe.....	15	30	do	do
Elijah.....	18	30	do	do
Judas.....	18	30	do	do
Ben.....	17	30	do	do
Tebalith.....	19	30	do	do
Doc.....	18	30	do	do
Peter.....	19	30	do	do
Big Sam.....	18	30	do	do
Number Two.....	17	30	do	do
Big Abe.....	19	30	do	do
Darby.....	18	30	do	do
Tony.....	18	30	do	do
Ambrose.....	16	30	do	do
Bob.....	18	30	do	do
Bony.....	15	30	do	do
Henry.....	17	30	do	do
Jordan.....	18	30	do	do
Prince.....	18	30	do	do
Yolo Baley.....	15	30	do	do
Little Sam.....	12	25	do	do
Job.....	12	25	do	do
Billy.....	12	25	do	do
Nancy—(she).....	15	30	do	do
Susan.....	15	30	do	do
Mary.....	18	30	do	do
Laura.....	10	25	do	do
Betsy.....	15	30	do	do
Julia.....	17	30	do	do
Myra.....	18	30	do	do
Maggie.....	18	30	do	do
Polly.....	15	30	do	do
Venus.....	16	30	do	do
Sally.....	17	30	do	do
Long Betsy.....	15	30	do	do
Dido.....	15	30	do	do
Big Sally.....	15	30	do	do
Mary Ann.....	15	30	do	do
Fanny.....	19	25	do	do
Eliza.....	15	30	do	do
Adele.....	12	25	do	do
Auntie.....	15	30	do	do
Rose.....	17	30	do	do
Bill.....	18	30	do	do
Van's Billy.....	17	30	do	do
Andrew.....	12	25	do	do
Trowbridge.....	12	25	do	do
Cooney.....	19	30	do	do
George.....	15	30	do	do

"The conditions of this indenture are, that the said F. J. Titus and V. F. Gager shall

"The conditions of this indenture are, that the said F. J. Titus and V. E. Geiger shall clothe, feed, care for and protect each of the said Indians hereinbefore mentioned, and shall do all and everything prescribed by law in regard to the Indians so apprenticed under the laws of the State. And in consideration, they shall be and are hereby entitled to the care, control, custody and earnings of said Indians, for and during the term for which each is respectively so bound, under the provisions of said law. The intent and meaning of this indenture is this: The said Newel Hall, Judge of the County of Tehama, State of California, acting for and in behalf of the Indians under the authority of the laws of said State, has so apprenticed the above named Indians to said Titus and Geiger, to be used in ranching, farming and housework.

NEWEL HALL,

"Judge of the County of Tehama, State of California.

"Copy,

F. J. TITUS,
"V. E. GEIGER."