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BY ALPHEUS W. RUSSELL.
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JOB PRINTING, of all kinds, neatly and promptly executed.

COMMUNICATIONS upon all subjects of public interest are solicited from every quarter of the State, and should be accompanied with the name and address of the contributor. All Business Communications should be addressed to THE SONOMA DEMOCRAT, Santa Rosa.

Petaluma Advertisements.

**Rough and Ready
LIVERY, SALE,
AND
AUCTION STABLES.**

MAIN STREET, BELOW ENGLISH.

J. H. RICHARDSON, having purchased the interest of S. Oldham, in the New Fire-proof Granite Stable, together with the Horses, Carriages, &c., would respectfully call the attention of the public to the superior facilities which he is able to offer in his line of business.

Horses and Carriages, or Saddle Horses, of the best quality, constantly in readiness for service.
Stock Corralled and fed at moderate rates. His facilities for this branch of business are unequalled by any stable in the county.
J. H. RICHARDSON,
Petaluma, Feb 18-58

Getchey & Roddaway,
Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
**FURNITURE, BEDDING,
MATTINGS,
Paper Hangings, Carpets, Oil Cloths,
Window Shades, &c. &c.**
Main Street, Petaluma, Opposite the Plaza.
Dec 18-57

Painting.
S. DEARBORN.
WOULD respectfully inform the citizens of PETALUMA and SANTA ROSA, that he is
In Want of Work!!
And still more.
In Want of Money!!
and that he would be happy to execute to order, all kinds of
**House, Sign,
Decorative and
Carriage Painting;**
At Prices as Low as the Lowest!!
and in a style
Not to be surpassed by any in the State.
Superior imitations of all kinds of
WOOD AND MARBLE.
All work warranted to give entire satisfaction, or no pay.
Paper Hanging,
done in the best style.
Place of business, over Reed & Fritzel's Carriage Shop, opposite Reid & Hinman's store, dec25-57 PETALUMA.

AMERICAN HOTEL.
**BROWN & REXFORD
PROPRIETORS.**

THE subscribers would return their thanks to their friends and the public generally, for the very liberal patronage which has been bestowed upon the American Hotel, since it has been opened. The present management, and at the same time respectfully call a continuance, promising to all who may give them a call, that no pains will be spared to make their stay at the American Hotel, pleasant and agreeable.

Stages for Sonoma, Napa, and Sacramento, or for Santa Rosa, Russian River, and the Geysers Springs, or for Bodega, etc., leave this house regularly.
Connected with the American Hotel is a new and commodious Stable, where Horses and Carriages may be procured at all times.
C. I. ROBINSON, Proprietor.
dec25-57

**ROBINSON'S
LIVERY, SALE AND EXCHANGE
STABLE.**

CHARLEY, HAVING OPENED THE PIONEER STABLES, on Main Street, Petaluma, next door to the Pioneer Hotel, with new and fine Stock, would say to his old customers and the public generally, that he WILL TRY to please all those that favor him with a call.

N. B.—Horses bought, sold, swapped, nicked, docked, bled and shod for sale.
C. I. ROBINSON, Proprietor.
dec25-57

ACCOMMODATION LINE.

From Petaluma to Bodega.

DAILY LINE!!
FROM AND AFTER OCT. 13, 1857, we will run a DAILY COACH between Petaluma and Bodega, as follows:
LEAVING PETALUMA,
Every Morning, Mondays excepted, at 7 o'clock, via Stone point, Miller & Walker's, Sebastopol, Bernhardt's Store, and J. O'Farrell's, to Bodega.
RETURNING—Leave Bodega at 1 o'clock, arriving at Petaluma the same evening, connecting with the San Francisco Stage, and the Santa Rosa, Sonoma, Napa, Benicia, and Sacramento Coaches.
WM. TIBBETTS & CO.
N. B.—The proprietors of this line, being determined to accommodate the public, will guarantee to attend to all business entrusted to their care in a satisfactory manner.
W. T. & CO.
PETALUMA, Oct. 28, 1857.
dec25-57

**S. C. HAYDON,
PETALUMA, SONOMA CO., CALIFORNIA.
DEALER IN
DRUGS AND MEDICINES,
AND BOOKS AND STATIONERY.**

THE DEMOCRAT:

SANTA ROSA, MARCH 18th, 1858.

Sacramento Correspondence.

SACRAMENTO, March 8th, 1858.

MR. EDITOR: The House has been progressing favorably for the last week. There are numerous propositions for various acts before the House, having for their aim, the welfare of Sonoma county.

Mr. Minum is here with a bill to make a Railroad, commencing near the Haystack and running to Healdsburg. This looks well at first view, but I assure you there is a "nigger in the wood-pile."

Its object is to defeat the bill to straighten the Petaluma Creek, a measure which presents itself to the good judgment of every man. The people in the upper part of Sonoma county are interested in the welfare and perpetuity of the town of Petaluma, and desire to have the boats, plying between San Francisco and that place, land at the town. As it is now, upon arriving at Petaluma you take a mud-wagon or something else and travel three miles to the Haystack or Rudehill's landing. The Legislature will amend the Railroad Bill so as to have it commence at the town of East Petaluma.

The Charter for the incorporation of the city of Petaluma is here, and I believe a majority is in its favor.

Mr. Edwards left yesterday for Petaluma, to investigate matters appertaining to the welfare of our county.

To-day Mr. Ormsby had the Hog law repealed in the county of Sonoma; also, had the bill read twice and referred to a committee, for the abolishment of the office of County Assessor, and have each township elect at the general election a township Assessor, who gives bond, and performs all duties now devolving upon the County Assessor. The school law is yet in the hands of the Committee on Education, but will be reported in a few days.

The El Dorado and Sacramento wagon-road bill was carried to-day, over the Governor's Message. This is right, the whole State is more or less interested in this measure, besides, it will be gratifying to the weary emigrant, when he arrives on the other side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Carson Valley, to find, instead of this heretofore most difficult part of the road from the Missouri river to California, a splendid carriage or wagon road.

The San Francisco Auctioneers and their satellites, the *Bulletin* and *Chronicle*, are moving heaven and earth, to interfere with a favorable reception of Mr. Ormsby's report, of his investigation of the amount of State dues owing by the Auctioneers to the State. The report makes it clear, that they owe the State one hundred thousand dollars and more. If this is true, it is no wonder it has created an intense excitement among them. They have flattered, or in some other way won over two of the committee, appointed to make that investigation, who report a sham statement, gotten up by the Auctioneers to deceive the Legislature. Mr. Ormsby is immovable, and intends facing the storm, believing in Henry Clay's doctrine, that "he would rather be right than be President of the United States."

A bill to compel suits for debts, to be brought in the county where the debtor resides, was carried by a large majority.

We have had pleasant weather for the last week, but it looks like rain to-day.

I will close this letter by giving the following account of Major Ormsby crossing the Alps, as taken from the *Placerville Index*:

"Thompson, the Carson Valley Expressman, tells a pretty good one on Major Ormsby, which goes to show conclusively that cutting mule meat, quinine and plantains in the siege of Grenada, has caused the Major to weaken in the knees.

After arriving at Slippery Ford last week, Ormsby and his man Friday found it impossible to get their mules any further on account of the snow, so they turned the animals loose, left them behind, and started ahead on snow shoes. They got along well enough until they arrived at the main summit of the Sierras, which is very steep, and difficult for the most experienced mountaineer to descend. The Major attempted it, however, but to his utter dismay found it impossible to either keep his equilibrium, or guide the snow-skates. At length a brilliant idea struck him. He remembered a certain juvenile amusement which he had practiced when a lad, on the hills of old Pennsylvania, and concluded on this occasion to profit by his early experience. Taking the Norwegian shoes from his treacherous feet, he immediately formed them into a sort of sled. Upon this he placed his blankets and other baggage, and then lying down with his breast upon the institution, commenced swimming over the frozen sea. Away went John Gilpin—we mean, away went Ormsby! The snow was

deep and slushy, and by some mishap, just at that moment, while aces of it became detached from the mountains, and came roaring and thundering at the heels of the flying sled rider. Friday says, that for a while it was nip and tuck between the Major and the avalanche, but at last from accumulated weight, the snow began to gain in speed, and finally buried our hero beneath a terrible wave twenty feet in depth! For a time the Major seemed to be irretrievably gone in, but presently the frightful avalanche swept over and revealed the astonished hombr still clinging for dear life to his unlucky snow shoes badly scared of course—but otherwise entirely unhurt." OMEGA.

SINGULAR ATTACK.—About 2 o'clock, on the morning of the 2d inst., says the *Calaveras Chronicle*, a man accosted Sheriff Mulford, of Calaveras County, and stated that Vance, the jailor, wished to see him at the jail. Mr. Mulford started, but observing three men ahead, apparently waiting for some one, he returned and asked Martin Rowan to accompany him. They then returned, and approaching the jail yard, Mr. Mulford directed Mr. Rowan to go around the jail yard to the left, and he would go to the right, and meet in the rear of the hill. When Mr. Mulford had reached his point of destination he sat down upon a box to await the arrival of Rowan. While sitting there, three men approached from the same direction he had come. When opposite to where he was sitting, two of them sprang upon him, and immediately assisted by the third, they succeeded in cutting him across the forehead, and also across the back of the head. Mr. Mulford's pistol was discharged in his attempt to draw it, immediately after which they fled. Mr. Rowan arrived a few moments after, and found Mulford bleeding profusely, and faint from loss of blood. He is since recovering. None of the three men were known to the sheriff. The *Chronicle* says there is a singular mystery connected with the affair, which is difficult of solution.

LATER FROM THE SOUTH.

By the arrival of the Steamer *Sanchez* Los Angeles papers have been received to the 6th, March.

The *Star* reports a destructive fire, which occurred in that city on the 25th of February. There was a scarcity of water, but the gallantry of the citizens is spoken of as being a most excellent substitute. It was the most extensive fire ever occurred in that place. The rains continued burning throughout the night. The next day men were set to work to clear away the rubbish, preparatory to the building of a block of fine brick buildings. There were three buildings destroyed; one, where the fire commenced, being occupied as a tin shop, one as a wagon shop, and the other was just fitted up for the reception of goods. The loss, in goods, &c., is estimated at \$20,000. The loss of the buildings, is not regarded as worth mentioning, as they were old, and about being removed, to give place to brick buildings.

LATER FROM THE COLORADO.—Since our last, says the *San Diego Herald*, Mr. Thomas, one of the riders of the Overland Mail Company, who brought the last mail from the river as far as Carissa Creek, has arrived in town, and informs us that the steamer *Jessup*, which was sunk on her way down the Colorado a short time since, has been raised and taken to Fort Yuma, where she now lies. After the *Jessup* sunk, Captain Johnston, whose perseverance and energy are well known in these parts, started on foot for the fort, where he fitted out his other steamer, the *Colorado*, and went to the assistance of the *Jessup*, as above stated. The *Colorado* has gone down to the mouth of the river for a cargo of goods, and when she returns, the *Jessup* will be taken down for repairs, there being no other place where she can be hoisted.

Lieutenant Ives' iron steamer *Explorer* had been got off the sand bar, where, at last accounts, she was hard and fast, and was waiting for the arrival from Fort Yuma of Lieutenant Tipton with the military escort, when they would make another attempt to ascend the Colorado, and continue their explorations. The water is represented to be rising slightly in the Colorado, but we doubt very much if the iron steamer, drawing as much water as she does, will be able to accomplish much with the river at its present stage.

Joseph H. Whiting, Esq., with a small party of survivors, have been several weeks at Fort Yuma, but left on the steamer *Colorado* on the 18th inst. for the mouth of the river, where they have a small shop, on which it is reported they are to embark on an exploring expedition down to the Gulf of California. Our informant did not learn the object, says the *Herald*, for which reconnaissance is undertaken, but we presume this is a portion of the party who have contracted to survey the State of Sonora for the Mexican Government.

KNOWING.—The *Index* knows of a citizen of Placerville who served a campaign in Mexico in '46 and '47, who crossed the plains in '51, arrived in Placerville with only six dollars in his pocket; who has since built a fine iron foundry, a coach and wagon factory, the most extensive blacksmithing establishment in the mountains; has also built a splendid two-story brick house, is largely interested in three or four paying quartz mills, is very good looking, and—wants to marry. The same paper knows where there is a spot within gun-shot of its office where, in the summer of 1848, an Oregonian took out 11,000 in dust from a pocket not larger than a peck measure. The same ravine where it was found, has been worked over twenty times since, and still pays fair wages when water is plenty.

FROM UTAH.

Files of the *Deseret News*, to the 3d of February have been received, and we make the following extracts indicative of the spirit of rebellion existing among the Mormons. The correspondence between Col. Alexander and Brigham Young is somewhat interesting, and shows exactly the relative position of both parties. In reply to Col. Alexander's letter explaining the reason of his presence with the troops, the arch-traitor says:

You acknowledge the receipt of my official Proclamation forbidding your entrance into the Territory of Utah, and upon that point I have only again to inform you that the matter set forth in that document is true, and the orders therein contained will be most strictly carried out.

If you came here for peaceful purposes, you have no use for weapons of war. We wish and ever have wished for peace, and have ever said for all the day long, as our bitterest enemies know full well; and though the wicked, with the Administration now at their head, have determined that we shall have no peace, except it be to lie down in death, in the name of Israel's God, we will have peace, even though we be compelled by our enemies to fight for it.

We have as yet studiously avoided the shedding of blood, though we have resorted to measures to resist our enemies, and through the operation of those mild measures, you can easily perceive that you and your troops are now at the mercy of the elements, and that we live in the mountains, and that all our men are mountaineers. This the Government should know, and also give us our right, and then let us alone.

As to the style of those measures, whether past, present or future, persons acting in self-defense have of right a wide scope for choice, and that too, without being very careful as to what name their enemies may see fit to term for their choice, for both we and the kingdom of God will be free from all hellish oppressors, the Lord being our helper. Threatening to waste and exterminate this people have been sounded in our ears for more than a score of years, and we yet live. The Zion of the Lord is here, and wicked men and devils cannot destroy it.

If you persist in your attempts to permanently locate an army in this Territory contrary to the wishes and Constitutional rights of the people therein, and with a view to aid the Administration in their unhalting efforts to palm their corrupt officials upon us, aid to protect them, and blacklegs, black-hearted scoundrels, w—ters and murderers, as was the sole intention in sending you and your troops here, you will have to meet a mode of warfare against which your tactics furnish you no information.

As to your inference concerning public and private letters, it contains an ungenerous and false insinuation, for, so far as I have any knowledge, the only stopping or detaining of the character you mention has alone been done by the P. O. Department in Washington, they having, as you must have known, stopped our mail from Independence, Missouri, by which it was but fair to presume that you as well as we were measurably curtailed in mail facilities.

BRIGHAM'S HOSPITALITY.—Brigham Young tends the hospitality of Salt Lake to the officers of the army in the following language:

Colonel, should you or any of the officers with you wish to visit this city, unaccompanied by troops, as did Captain Van Vliet, with a view to personally learn the condition and feelings of this people, you are at liberty to do so under my cheerful proffered assurance that you will be safely escorted from our outposts to this city, and back, and that during your stay in our midst you will receive all the attention and courtesy your rank demands. Doubtless you have supposed that many of the people here would flee to you for protection upon your arrival, and if there are any such persons they shall be at once conveyed to your camp in perfect safety, so soon as such fact can be shown.

BRIGHAM TAUNTS COL. ALEXANDER.—The Mormon rebel, in reply to a letter from Col. Alexander stating that he considered the troops, under his orders, amply sufficient to carry out the wishes of the Administration, sends him back the following taunting allusion:

Inasmuch as you consider your force amply sufficient to enable you to come to this city, why have you unwisely dallied so long on Ham's Fork, at this late season of the year!

WORK FOR THE WOMEN.—Heber C. Kimball, in one of his discourses, cuts out work for the women, while the men are engaged in war, after the following style:

When the United States muster their forces and the devil combines his force against us, then God will combine his forces against them; but we do not want women to go out and fight, but we want them to stay here and raise everything for our comfort and consolation.

KIMBALL INVEIGLES AGAINST THE FASHIONS.—In one of his discourses he says: I am opposed to your nasty fashions and everything you wear for the sake of fashion. Did you ever see with hennaph-rodite pantaloons on? Our boys are weakening their backs and their kidneys by girding themselves up as they do;

they are destroying the strength of their joints and taking a course to injure their posterity.

Now, just look at me. I have no hips projecting out—they are straight down with my sides. I am serious myself, although I can smile and laugh when I am serious; but those ridiculous fashions I despise, and God knows I despise anything that will tend to destroy the lives of my sisters. What is your existence worth to you? It is worth everything to your posterity, and you ought to consider their interest as well as your own.

There is not a woman in this congregation but would be as straight as I am if she did not destroy her shape.

KIMBALL'S OPINION OF OUR TROOPS.—I understand those officers out yonder have got a good many women with them, and I do not believe there are twenty in the whole camp but what are —, and they designed to come here to set you a pattern, and to moralize this community. I say will not they feel pretty straight by next spring? I think they will feel considerably cooled off by next spring, and I have an idea that by that time they will feel disposed to quit their prostitution, and if they do not go away we will make them march pretty quick. Those soldiers cannot rule over us, nor their civil officers either, for they are the meanest of the corruption of the world. It makes me angry, but I will not sin about it, but I feel displeased at such things.

MORMON SHARPNESS.—Brigham Young says: Can we feed and clothe ourselves? Yes, we can, as well as any people on the earth. We have a goodly share of the genius, talent and ability of the world; it is combined in the Elders of this church and in their families. And if the Gentiles wish to see a few tricks, we have "Mormons" that can perform them. We have the meanest devils on the earth in our midst, and we intend to keep them, for we have use for them; and if the devil does not look sharp, we will cheat him out of them at the last, for they will reform and go to heaven with us.

We have already showed the invading army a few tricks, and I told Captain Van Vliet that if he persisted in making war upon us, I should share in their supplies. The boys would ride among the enemy's tents, and one of their Captains, run into Col. Alexander's tent, one night, saying, "why, Colonel, I'll be damned if the Mormon's won't be riding into your tent, if you don't look out."

Notwithstanding all their boasting and bragadoes, we have positive advices that great destitution and want exist at Salt Lake. The Elders were endeavoring to stir the people up to produce everything for themselves; but their spirits had gotten to a pretty low ebb, requiring all the address and tact of Brigham and the Twelve to keep them to the Mormon griststone.

RIGHTS OF HUSBAND AND WIFE.—The following is a copy of a bill approved by the Governor, on the 11th inst., and is now the law of the State:

SECTION 1. The sixth section of an Act entitled "An Act defining the rights of husband and wife," passed April seven, tenth, eighteen hundred and fifty, is hereby amended to read as follows: The husband shall have the management and control of the separate property of the wife during the continuance of the marriage; but no sale or other alienation of any part of such property can be made, nor any lien of incumbrance created thereon, unless by an instrument in writing, signed by the husband and wife, and acknowledged by her, upon an examination separate and apart from her husband, before any Judge of a Court of record or Notary Public; or, if executed out of this State, then so acknowledged before some Judge of a Court of record, or before a Commissioner appointed under the authority of this State to take acknowledgment of deeds; or before any Minister, Secretary of Legation, or Consul of the United States, appointed for and residing in the foreign country in which the said deed is to be acknowledged.

A JEW'S OPINION ON THE SUNDAY LAW.—A member of the Hebrew faith, writing to the *Union from Lancha Plana*, under date of February 26th, expresses the following reasonable views on the Sunday law:

Having noticed among the Legislative proceedings, as reported in your columns, the debates upon the passage of the Sunday law now pending before that body, I am happy to say that I am pleased to notice the fairness with which some of the members desire to act towards persons of the Jewish faith in this State. As one professing that faith, I wish to state that I have no objections whatever to the passage of such a law—believing as I do that it would conduce both to the welfare and happiness of the people at large, to have one day in seven observed as a day of rest—and as we have not, in common regard, our own Sabbath, we cannot reasonably object to the passage of a general Sunday law.

MINT STATISTICS.—The deposits of gold bullion in the Branch Mint of San Francisco, during the week ending March 6th, amounted to 23,611.34 ounces, worth about \$436,000. The coinage of gold during the week was \$400,000, all in double eagles. Silver half dollars were coined to the amount of \$8,000.

FIGHT WITH INDIANS AT HAWKINSVILLE.

—A serious affray occurred at Hawkinsville, on Sunday night last, between some Indians and Mr. E. P. Kennedy. The facts of the case, says the *Siskiyou Chronicle*, as near as we can learn, are as follows:—

After Mr. Kennedy had retired to bed, he was aroused by a rustling noise outside, and on going to the door to ascertain the cause, he was attacked by three Indians, who began pelting him with stones, one of which struck and knocked him down. He soon recovered from the blow, got his rifle and proceeded again to the door, when the Indians commenced a promiscuous fire upon him with pistols. Kennedy fired his rifle among them, the contents taking effect in the abdomen of Tie John; and when the others advanced, he broke his gun over the head of another. The third, in attempting to cock his pistol to shoot Mr. Kennedy, discharged it prematurely, the contents lodging in his own foot, and he sunk to the ground disabled. We learn that Tie John, the Indian who received the contents of the rifle, has since died of his wound.

The object of these red rascals was evidently plunder, even though they had to accomplish it by murder. Bitter complaints have been made of late by the citizens of Hawkinsville because of the many thefts committed by Indians in their midst, and what will ultimately be the consequence of these outrages we cannot say.

It is said the Indians are in a very hostile attitude towards the whites since the above affray, and swear a war of extermination against the white population of Hawkinsville. Complaints have also been made that some persons or persons have been guilty of giving or selling these miserable and imbecile creatures intoxicating liquors. If this be true, we hope the guilty parties may be detected and made to suffer the extreme penalty for such a shameful violation of law and decency. The probability is that they obtain liquor from Kanakas, as there are a number in that vicinity, some of whom have squaws for wives. Generally, these Kanakas are pests more to be dreaded, detested, and discontinued, than the Indians.

WHENCE STRYCHNINE IS PRODUCED.—The source from which this poison, which has gained so world-wide a celebrity recently is obtained, is thus noticed in *Dickens's Household Words*:

In Ceylon, and several districts of India, grows a moderate sized tree, with thick shining leaves, and a short crooked stem. In the fruit season it is readily recognized by its rich orange-colored berries, about as large as golden pippins. The rind is hard and smooth, and covers a white soft pulp, the favorite food of many kinds of birds, within which are the flat round seeds, and covered with very silky hairs. The Germans fancy they can discover a resemblance in them to gray eyes, and call them "crown eyes," but the likeness is merely imaginary. This tree is the *strychnine*, *nux vomica*, and the nut is deadly poison. The latter was early used as a medicine by the Hindoos, and its nature and properties were understood by Oriental doctors long before it was known to foreign nations. "Dog killer" and "fish scale" are two of its Arabic names. It is stated that, at present, the natives of Hindostan often take it for many months, continuously, in much the same manner as opium-eaters eat opium. They commence by taking the eighth of a nut a day, and gradually increase their allowance to an entire nut, which would be about 20 grains. If they eat directly before or after food, no unpleasant effect is produced; but if they neglect this precaution, spasms result.

One of the best among the many proposed processes for tanning leather is found to be the following:

The hair is first removed from the hides in any usual manner, and the hides thoroughly cleansed in either pure water or a solution of salt and water. A batch of fifty sides are then placed in a liquor composed by steeping forty pounds of Sicily sumac, or one hundred and fifty pounds of ugruond sumac, in two hundred and fifty gallons of water, to which twenty-five pounds of salt are added. The sides remain in this liquor from twelve to twenty-four hours, according to the temperature of the liquor and the condition of the sides—blood heat being the best temperature. After the sides have thus remained in the salted infusion of sumac, the liquor is strengthened by the addition of about two hundred gallons of strong oak or hemlock liquor, and fifteen pounds of salt, and the sides allowed to remain in this for twelve or twenty-four hours; they are then withdrawn, and placed in the same quantity of liquor, containing twenty pounds of salt in solution, and allowed to remain in it some five or six days.

FRESHET IN THE UMPQUA VALLEY.—There has been a rush of mighty waters on the Umpqua river, "the likes of which" was never known. The roads are very much damaged, and many bridges have been carried away, so that the country is almost impassable. It is estimated that \$10,000 will not more than repair the damage to the roads. Besides this, however, great havoc has been committed among the cattle and stock.

NEVADA.—A turnpike road is to be constructed between that place and Grass Valley.

REPEAL OF THE TULARE CANAL BILL.

—The Sacramento correspondence of the *Alta*, of March 9th, says:

The Senate, on yesterday evening, did a wise action, in breaking up the monopoly granted by the last Legislature, under the provisions of the act to provide for the construction of canals, and for the draining and reclaiming of certain swamp and overflowed lands in Tulare county. The discussion had over the repealing bill brought to light the following facts: First, that the work is impracticable; second, that under the act as passed the grantees had the privilege of speculating in lands to the detriment of the State; third, that the parties had not thus far either prosecuted the work, or restricted themselves within the provisions of the bill. The Legislature having the right to repeal any of its enactments which prove either inoperative or detrimental to the interests of the State, the introducer of the original bill deemed it imperative on him to present another repealing its provisions. The act was passed by a vote of 17 to 13.

On a question of parliamentary ruling relative to the passage of the bill, the decision of the Chair was appealed from to-day, and sustained. This gave Senator Gregory an opportunity of moving a reconsideration of the vote, whereby the bill passed, in accordance with previous notice given on yesterday. The Senate, by a vote of 16 to 18, refused to reconsider.

We put this down as at least one good act of the present Legislature.

MIXING DITCHES.—The San Andreas Independent says:

Most of the ditches of this State were built on borrowed capital. A good deal of it borrowed in London, at high rates of interest—seldom less than twenty-four per cent. per annum. The first cost of most of them was from three to five times their real cash value, after completion. In many instances, the laborers who did the work never received their pay; but the ditch, after a hundred or two hundred thousand dollars in worthless paper securities had been pledged by the original projectors to the laborers, was, by some legal leguleian, transferred to other parties. We know of a ditch in a neighboring county, which, estimating interest money, labor, pay of agents, superintendents, etc., etc., cost originally \$450,000; and yet the laborers were nearly all swindled out of their hard earnings, and cursed for their simplicity. The same ditch, two years ago, was bought for \$45,000—not all cash at that. They could not afford to sell water at more than \$5 per head, because they were paying forty per cent. interest on \$100,000 of borrowed capital. The same history will doubtless apply to most of the ditches of the State.

THE KING OF DELHI'S MODE OF EXECUTION.

—The following has been communicated to the *Poona Observer*: It appears from the journal of a European traveler, that a new and fearful mode of execution had been adopted by the King of Delhi. A box, each side of which is fifteen feet square, is constructed of timber eighteen inches thick, dovetailed together, and braced with iron rods. The outside of the bottom of the box is covered with a plate of beaten iron, one inch in thickness. The interior is filled with perfect cubes of granite, weighing in the aggregate several thousand tons. A machine is erected after the manner of an ordinary pile-driver, but of course on an enormous scale and of tremendous power. The mass is raised by powerful machinery cast in Birmingham for the express purpose, though it is presumed by the machinist by whom it was furnished had no idea of the horrid purpose for which it was intended. The human victim is placed upon a block of granite of corresponding size, buried in the earth immediately beneath the enormous mass, and covered with a plate of iron. At a signal given by the vicereadack the executioner touches a spring, the mass falls and the victim, crushed at once, is suddenly annihilated, and spread out like a sheet of pasteboard! The huge weight being again raised, the flattened body is withdrawn and dried in the sun. When completely prepared, it is hung over the wall of a public building, there to serve as a warning to the multitude.

NOTHING MORE PATETIC.—Here is a story, chronicled by John of Brompton, of the mother of Thomas A. Becket. His father, Gilbert A. Becket, was taken prisoner during one of the crusades by a Syrian Emir, and held a considerable period in a kind of honorable captivity. A daughter of the Emir saw him at her father's table, heard him converse, fell in love with him, and offered to arrange the means by which both might escape to Europe. The project only partly succeeded; he escaped, but she was left behind. Soon afterwards, however, she contrived to elude her attendants, and after many marvellous adventures by sea and land, arrived in England, knowing but two English words "London" and "Gilbert." By constantly repeating the first, she was directed to the city; and there, followed by a mob, she walked from street to street, crying, as she went, "Gilbert! Gilbert!" She at last came to the street in which her lover lived; the mob and the name attracted the attention of a servant in the house; Gilbert recognized her, and they were married. We doubt if any poet, if even Chaucer, imaginative as he was, ever conceived sentiment in a form so vital and primary as it is realized in this fact.