

by the murders on that stream, abandoned the work to seek protection in their own village, under the immediate control of their employer. We cannot state with accuracy the number slain, although it is believed to have been not less than twenty. Three were killed a short distance from the house, while employed in digging a grave for a member of Daylor's family deceased.

On Thursday the district Alcalde visited the scene of bloodshed, and was shown the bodies of eleven Indians in one grave. The Indians report twenty-three missing of their Indian men in all. What is reserved for the prisoners time will show. The Indians were without arms when slaughtered. By our next we may be placed in possession of further details, and corrections be required in the foregoing, all of which will be promptly presented.

PLACER TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1848.

We forbear commenting upon the numerous crimes committed, and offences reported within the past month, because for eleven months past society has been held together without other law than has suggested itself in cases of emergency, when, moved by an innate sense of justice, common usage has been applied, and thus difficulty between man and man adjusted. But bitterly do we contemplate the scene now presented. These moral and suasive influences are known no longer, or, if they exist, are but feeble barriers against crime and violence. The preservation of law and order cannot rest with these, and we must have the usual means of enforcing measures necessary for the public quiet and welfare, or witness a state of society at the thought of which humanity shudders. This protection can be afforded us, and should be extended at once, and, as American citizens, we have the right to appeal to it, for, never since the discovery of gold, have we required the presence of military power, as now.

The Meeting, Election, and Legislation.—On our first page to-day, may be found the proceedings of a meeting and result of an election, held in this place on Monday, 30th ult., and, in another column, a report of the action of a Legislative body created thereby. This measure of the greatest moment,—the matter of providing laws for this district has been disposed of in double quick time. "Strike while the iron is hot,"—give us wise laws, and to the unflinching and determined, as officers, the enforcement of them. The energy, spirit, and unanimity with which this endeavor to set up a government for our protection has been undertaken, augurs favorably, while it reflects creditably upon the character of this community, when matters of public importance demand attention. The Legislature has already evinced a disposition to speedily rear out of existing chaos sound and effective laws. Heaven grant it may be kept in this way; this will be the honest prayer of every order-loving citizen of Sacramento.

Sacramento city.—If ever a town in extraordinary times bid fair to speedily become an important city, we believe it to be our own. Built up amid a whirl of exciting adventure and speculation, at a period when the instability of man resolutely sets at defiance "bright improvement," we certainly can claim for this place unexampled prosperity, and safely predict its continued growth and eventual

greatness. Sacramento city is no misnomer, indeed.—Already the "outward tokens" are visible; the business hum and bustle of our landing and market places may, upon days of "driving trade," be favorably compared to the constant stir and activity peculiar to the business portions of our large Atlantic cities. The river's side presents a scene of admirable city-like confusion. Goods for which there is no shelter, strewn along the banks, others store in tents or under old sails, for the great scarcity of building material gives rise to a variety of queer substitutes, and beneath a canvass covering trade flourishes quite as well, it is understood, as under the ordinary shelter. Quietly moored at the foot of one of our most frequented thoroughfares appears a bark of 300 tons, and a brig of 200 is similarly secured a few hundred yards down the river. Both are to be used as wharves, and are the property of two of our principal houses. They were purchased at San Francisco, and sailed hither without difficulty. The Embarcadero can boast of some twenty-five or thirty stores, and the Fort and its immediate vicinity, of about eight or ten, together with a hotel, printing office, bakery, blacksmith shops, tin shop, billiard room, bowling alley, etc., etc., each indispensable in making up the vast compound of a city. Sacramento city is probably as healthy a locality as this valley affords. During what is termed the sickly season of last year, this place was sought as a refuge by those whose health had been prostrated in the mines, because medical attendance could be obtained, and the disease yielded quite as readily to proper treatment here as in our seaport towns. We have learned of late that an hospital is to be established at this point; such an institution is certainly desirable, for we apprehend an over amount of sickness will be the result of so large an influx into the mines of unacclimated "foreigners" this season. As Sacramento city is the point on the river of disembarkation, previous to entering the Placer, the great body of emigration will flow hither, ere diffusing itself over the mining country. Another year will count wondrous changes in California, but nowhere will change be more perceptible than here.

Navigation Extraordinary.—The Bark *Whiton*, Gelston, master, arrived at the Embarcadero of this place on Friday last, seventy-two hours from San Francisco, and 140 days from New York. The *Whiton* is of 241 tons burthen, and draws 9 1-2 feet of water. Of her pilot, Mr. George Winner, Captain Gelston speaks in terms of the highest praise. From his perfect knowledge of the bays and river channel, Mr. Winner is probably second to no one. The *Whiton* appeared with her royal yards crossed, and, of her trip, it may be said, all circumstances considered, it is without a precedent in our river navigation.

Dreadful affair.—By persons recently arrived from the Stanislaus, we have received intelligence of a most unpleasant nature Lieutenant Morrison, late Lieutenant Co. K, 1st Regiment N. Y. Volunteers, a young gentleman highly esteemed by numerous acquaintances in California, was shot on the 13th ult. at Stockton, and died in about two hours after receiving the wound. We have been enabled to gather but few of the facts in this deplorable occurrence. Morrison is reported to have been under the influence of liquor, and to have somewhat rudely accosted one Dr. Freund, a German, which led to high words,

followed by a number of threats on either side. Both were mounted, and Morrison, seemingly disposed to be quarrelsome, rode towards Freund, who produced a pistol, and warned him to retire. Morrison, it is asserted by some, held a cut-throat knife in his hand, and but partially heeded the menace of the former. A few moments after they came together, when Morrison struck at the other, but whether with his knife or clenched fist it does not appear; Freund snapped twice a revolving pistol at him, in riding away and at a distance of eleven yards, discharged a barrel, the ball entering the groin. Morrison expired in great agony two hours after. Freund was arrested, the people assembled, and a judge chosen, who formed a jury and proceeded to the trial. The result is said to have been an acquittal, but a sentence passed of which we shall know more in a few days.

Inhuman murder.—A man named Doyle was murdered near the Columa mines a few weeks since, and nothing has been revealed as to the circumstances under which, or by whom, the deed was committed. His body was found secreted by the wayside, shockingly disfigured, his heart taken out, and skull fractured in several places. The prevailing impression among the miners of Columa appeared to be, that this murder had been committed by white men, and every item of evidence seemed to justify this conclusion. Doyle had with him, when last seen, about \$2000, of which his person was found plundered, and it is supposed the manner of death, and gross mutilation of the remains, had been resorted to to convey the impression that Indians had committed the deed. The black-hearted fiends! who, from beneath a white skin, boast a mental superiority, and claim the sphere of our race their daily walk.

The Country.—Strangers arriving in our valley, at this time, are delighted with the appearance of the country, which, in truth, never looked more charming. The season is unusually forward, and Mother Earth, attired in her Spring robes, seems zealously striving to gratify the refined taste of her numerous visiting children. Gold-hungry mortals!—yet not wholly insensible to the old Dame's blandishments. The broad plains are blooming with flowers of every hue, the weather, barring a few days of high wind, has been uniformly pleasant, the rains are over and the "merry month of May" has returned; all who can appreciate the beauties of a California Spring should be with us now to view the valley of the Sacramento.

From San Francisco.—The *Alta California* of May 1 has been received in this place, and we condense as much as is possible of the news contained for our present number. The steamer *California* would positively sail on the afternoon of the above date for Panama; she carries three hundred thousand dollars in gold dust, and fifty-one passengers. Previous to sailing, she performed a pleasure excursion to Benicia, to the great delight of numerous passengers;—time consumed in going to Benicia, two hours and fifty minutes. The ship *Iowa* arrived at Monterey on the 13th inst., with three companies of the second regiment of infantry, commanded by General Riley. Three subsequent arrivals of United States transports with troops are reported. The disposition to be made of these troops we give in another column.