THE ALTA CALIFORNIA.

FRED'K MacCRELLISH & CO.

FRED'K MACCRELLISH.....WM. A. WOODWARD

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Daily Alta California.

SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY, MAY 26.

CITY ITEMS.

PENTECOST, OR FEAST OF WEEKS.—This festival, observed by our Jewish citizens, commences this (Saturday) evening, and continues through Sunday and Monday. According to the Hebrew calendar, it occurs on the fifth and sixth days of the third month after their departure from Egypt, called Sevou. Pentecost is observed to commemorate their being constituted a nation, and appointed to be the peculiar and chosen people of God. The origin of this festival is in the commandments of the Divine law: "Seven weeks shalt thou number unto thee," etc. (Deut., xvi., 9-12.) "Also in the days of the first fruits," etc. (Num., xxxviii., 26.) From the counting of weeks the festival derives its name. Its rank among the three principal festivals of the year is assigned to it by another commandment, namely: "Three times a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God, in the place which he shall choose," etc. (Deut., xvi., 16-17.) According to authentic tradition, which, in its origin, ascends to the remote and glorious period when the Deity was pleased to reveal himself to his people on Mount Sinai, and which, together with the account of the wonderful events which accompanied that revelation, has been transmitted from father to son in uninterrupted succession, we find that the Festival of Weeks, or Pentecost, was instituted to commemorate the most important fact recorded in sacred history—a fact on which not only the Israelitish system, but those of all other nations who confess the authenticity and Divine origin of the Mosaic dispensation are founded. Unless the events which this festival commemorates have—unless they have completed the perfect system of religious, moral and social legislation, which the Deity vouchsafed to reveal to his chosen people at Mount Sinai, had been made known to and accepted by them—unless they, through that acceptance had been constituted a peculiar and chosen people to the exclusion of priests and instructors to the rest of mankind—unless all this had taken place, revealed religion would have been deficient of its strongest proofs; the perfection and happiness of the human race would have been deprived of its strongest bulwark against the inroads of infidelity and vice, and that nation would not have held that high office which, once conferred on them, they have never since been deprived of, namely, the important office of being the attesting witnesses to the truths of Revelation and to the authenticity of those glorious, perfect and immutable laws which alone secure true happiness, and uphold the otherwise frail structure of the social fabric. Reflecting on the events which this day commemorates, it is evident that the Feast of Weeks should take precedence of all other festivals of the year. It is now 3,347 years since, on Pentecost, the Children of Israel stood on Mount Sinai, and heard the living God proclaim, "I am the Lord thy God; thou shalt have no other Gods before me." Such was the great truth which then was revealed unto them, and to spread the knowledge of which among the nations of the earth they were chosen. Since then, the Israelites have undergone vicissitudes innumerable and almost unprecedented; countless changes of fortune; but still, in prosperity as in adversity, in good as in evil report, honored or scorned, oppressed or cherished, with unlimited devotion they have remained true to their office. On these days the synagogues on Broadway and Stockton are open for public worship. The buildings are festooned with green foliage, and tastefully decorated with choice flowers, which lend to them a very unique appearance. On Sunday morning, at 10 A. M., the Rev. Dr. Henry will preach at the Stockton street synagogue, when all are invited to attend.

RAFFLES AND GIFT ENTERTAINMENTS.—A correspondent, writing over the signature of "Subscriber," makes the following inquiries: "Will you please inform the public how it is, that we have at present two large raffles, called 'gift entertainments,' now in full blast in this city? Is not there a law prohibiting them?" We applied to Chief Burke, last evening, to ascertain in relation to the law referred to by our correspondent, and from him learn that several attempts have been made to prevent public raffles, and that owing to defects in the existing enactments, the law has not yet been able to reach them. This was the result in the well known "Wood & Eddy" case, and in the several attempts made to put down the "wheel of fortune" games on Long Wharf, last fall. The *Alta* has repeatedly alluded to this subject.

YACHTING.—Capt. Spicer, of the *Wm. L. Sutton*, brought out with him from New York a beautiful yacht, built at Mystic, Conn., which will be put overboard to-day, for the first time, for a trial trip in the bay. She is twenty-two feet long, and built after the model of the *Restless*. Capt. Spicer, we believe, offers to sail her against any other boat of her inches in California. The new boat, *John C. Heenan*, and the *Pride of the Bay*—the champion boat of California—had a slight preliminary brush in the bay early this week, in which, we believe, neither got the better of the other. Mr. Jones offers to match his boat, the *Mermaid*, against anything in these waters, and the *Pride of the Bay* is around for boats of her class. Among them all, there will be lively times this summer.

THIEF VS. THIEF.—Joe Farrell was arrested yesterday by officer Moore, for stealing a trunk and its contents (a part of which was $200 in gold,) from a fellow prisoner, Thomas Dolan. The two had been confined in one cell in the County Jail, and, in a moment of confidence, Tom let his chum know where his trunk was stored, and requested him when he was let out, which was to be in a few days—to procure it and send it to the jail. Joe promised, and on his being discharged, found the trunk as described; but instead of sending it to Thomas, he appropriated the contents. The temptation was too great for him to resist. This will probably send him to the State Prison.

THE SICK JAPANESE SAILORS.—Nine of the crew of the Japanese corvette *Candinmarruh* were left by the Admiral, seven of them being too ill to return in the steamer, and two being detailed to take care of them. Mr. Charles Wolcott Brooks, the Commercial Agent for Japan, informs us that one has since died, and has been buried by his directions, and that the others will probably be returned by the next vessel sailing for Japan.

MYSTERIOUS—THE MAN WITH THE PISTOL.—A handsome, well dressed individual was arrested on Washington street yesterday, about noon, by officers Blitz and Evrard, for amusing himself by pointing a loaded revolver down that crowded thoroughfare. The weapon was capped and cocked, and the handsome man who gave his name as John Ferrier, stated that he was out gunning after a man who was riding about town with his wife.

SAN FRANCISCO SCIENTIFIC PRESS.—We have received the first number of a weekly paper called *The Scientific Press*, published in this city by George H. Winslow & Co. Its purpose is to occupy, on the Pacific coast, a position similar to that held in the Eastern States by the *Scientific American*. It is illustrated with several engravings, representing Californian inventions.

DASHAWAY EXCURSION.—On Wednesday, of next week, the Dashaways will make an excursion with two steamboats, down to Ravenswood, San Mateo county. There will be an abundance of refreshments on the grounds, and music and dancing. It is supposed that about three thousand people will participate in the festivities.

CITY WATER WORKS.—We understand, that at the annual meeting of the stockholders of the San Francisco City Water Works, held yesterday, the following gentlemen were unanimously reëlected as Trustees of said Works for the ensuing year, viz.: John Bensley, Anthony Chabot, C. H. Simpkins, Henry S. Dexter, and F. F. Low.

BOY LOST.—A little boy, five years of age, named Willie A. Robertson, strayed from his home, Nos. 18 and 20 Jackson street, yesterday afternoon, and has not since been seen. It is feared by his parents, that the little fellow has fallen through one of the wharf traps and has been drowned.

GOOD FOR THE OVERLAND.—An evening paper relates that a lady who came overland in the stage, last trip, gained three pounds weight on the trip. The hardships and anxieties, then, of the journey cannot be very terrible.

NEW TRIAL IN THE SHERREDACK CASE.—It is expected that the papers relative to a new trial in the Sherreback case will be filed to-day in the U. S. District Court by Hall McAllister, counsel, managing the case on behalf of the United States.

PASSENGERS OVERLAND.—Messrs. J. B. David, Bernard Pollock, Scott, Shattuck and E. A. Decourse took passage in the overland mail stage which left yesterday, for St. Louis.

CHERRIES.—Cherries, not big enough to take two bites at, are in the market. Only nabobs can as yet afford to luxuriate on them.

THE NEW GAUGER.—Col. Wm. G. Ross, lately appointed State Gauger, commences his term of office to-day, *vice* Mr. Addison.

WHITSUNTIDE FESTIVAL.—A Whitsuntide festival is to be held to-morrow at Russ' Garden. See advertisement.

EARTHQUAKE.—The earth quaked twice, slightly, yesterday morning, about six o'clock. Nobody hurt.

THE CENSUS.—Next week Saturday the work of taking the census will commence.

STEAMER DUE.—The *California*, from Panama, is due to-day.

Daily Alta California.

VOL. XII. SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 26, 1860. NO. 146.

BLUE SKIES AGAIN.—The wind shifted to the westward yesterday about noon, clearing away the clouds which have lowered over San Francisco, and letting old Sol have a cheerful glance down among the wet roofs and muddy streets which, for the last week, have been sadly in want of sunshine. It is rare indeed that we have such a long-continued rain in May. The effect of the change in the weather was noticeable all the afternoon. Ladies, despite the mud on the street crossings, sallied out after ribbons and fancy fixins, and an immediate push was made for the dens of the colored bootblacks. Sambo rubbed and polished away, resolved to make hay while the sun shone, and believing, rightly, that it was an ill wind that blew nobody any good.

In the evening the sidewalks of our "Broadway" of the Pacific—Montgomery street—were alive with pedestrians *en route* for the various places of amusements. The shop windows looked all the more brilliant for the temporary dull weather. The man with the blowing machine for measuring the capacity of lungs, set his tripod, and the group of "blowers," with eyes starting out of their sockets, commenced the old game of pectoral experimenting; the little musical itinerant, with the shrill voice and abominable accordeon, stationed himself at the door of the What Cheer House, and commenced the usual medley of "Old Bob Ridley," "New York Gals," to the huge amusement of sundry exiles from Pike; the Emperor Norton again donned his epaulettes and recommenced strutting up and down the sidewalk; the groups around the corner of Washington and Montgomery streets thickened as the theatres lighted up; billiard sharps, bummers, runners, cappers, thieves, and gamblers mingled with their betters, and pushed hither and thither to swell the busy concourse of humanity which at night concentrates "down town" in our growing metropolis of the Pacific.

San Francisco is a rare city. We who have journeyed in so many lands have never seen its like. Larger cities, and richer and worse cities, there are; but none even of thrice its population, that we wot of, where so many strange and curious elements are gathered together. From the four quarters of the globe, from all nations, they are crowded into this hive of industry and life, presenting the distinctive features of half a dozen great centres of American and European populations; and yet the city preserves a separate metropolitan character of its own. There is no other place in America like San Francisco. That, all persons admit the moment they land among us; and as the revenue of trade across the continent become opened, and steamboat lines are established with our strange Asiatic neighbors across the Pacific, the city will be a perfect Babel of tongues, and a curious *omnium gatherum* of costumes, which it will be useless to look for elsewhere.

Those thoughts suggested themselves to us last evening as we stood at Montgomery Block, and mused upon the great tide of adventurers to this Pacific coast who, in hurrying procession, passed us. Last night was a peculiarly happy time to note this sight, for the sudden return of the fine weather which characterizes our summer time, had brought out all the world and his neighbor to enjoy it.

MISS MARIAN LEE IN COURT.—Miss Marian Lee, the actress, was in the Police Court yesterday forenoon, a claimant of two framed pictures, which had been deposited by Mr. Howe, the actor, for a debt of $19 50, just before his departure for the Atlantic States, by the *Sonora*. She was very closely questioned by the opposing lawyer, and so unpleasantly that, on quitting the stand, she made him a low courtesy and said meaningly, "I thank you, sir"—which, however, did not at all disconcert the imperturbable limb of the law. She testified, in substance, that she had been performing with Howe a year, and had known him five years. They came to California as partners, and when he was out of employ she divided her salary with him, and he, having charge of the wardrobe, pawned her pictures to raise money. Having been in partnership with Howe, she became liable for his act, and the Judge ordered the pictures to be restored to the party who got them from Howe.

POLICE COURT REGISTER.—The proceedings in the Police Court yesterday were as follows: Drunk—John Quinn and Geo. Brown, bail forfeited: Eliza Allison, Dennis Geron, and Bridget Bates, five dollars fine or County Prison twenty-four hours. Peddling without a license—S. Shilman, continued for sentence. Assault and battery—H. Engelbrecht, discharged. Continued cases: Misdemeanor—Ah Hoo, City Prison forty-eight hours. Assault and battery—Wm. Bates, City Prison ten days. Petit larceny—George Seavy, discharged. Obstructing a public street—Samuel Gordon, continued to Saturday.

THE FLORAL FESTIVAL.—Recollect that this will be the last day of the Floral Festival, at the Academy of Music. Last night being the first really fair weather they have had, the hall was thronged, and a gay and merry time was had by everybody. The music is capital. There will be lunch to-day, served by the fair hands of the ladies themselves, between the hours of twelve and two, and in the evening, an entire change of programme.

New Publications.

DOCTOR OLDHAM AT GREYSTONES, AND HIS TABLE-TALK THERE. New York: D. Appleton & Co. San Francisco: H. H. Bancroft, Montgomery street.

A common sense book, of sensible talk on a variety of subjects. It is both amusing and instructive, and well calculated as a pleasant companion, to while away an hour or two at home.

REVOLUTIONS IN ENGLISH HISTORY, BY ROBERT VAUGHAN, D. D. Vol. I. Revolutions of Race. New York: D. Appleton & Co.; San Francisco: H. H. Bancroft, Montgomery street.

In this work the reader will not find everything he could expect to find in a publication bearing the title of a history of England. It is intended to elucidate so much of the past as will suffice to give full presentation and prominence to the great changes in the history of England, showing whence they came, what they have been, and whither they tend.

CHRISTIAN TREATMENT OF THE CHINAMEN IN CALIFORNIA.—We have received a copy of a pamphlet "On the Contact of Races," by Mr. John Archbald, wherein he enters his protest against the unjust, unchristian, and impolitic manner in which the Chinamen are treated by the Americans in California. Most of the pamphlet is a reprint from the *Pacific* newspaper.

FUNERALS.—Two funeral trains wound their solemn lengths slowly through the city, yesterday, on their way to the cemetery. The one bore the remains of an aged person who had filled the full measure of life's little span, and had been gathered like a ripened sheaf by the hand of the Great Husbandman into the garner-house of death. The other bore the tiny form of an infant cherub; a blighted bud of the springtime; a frail creature who had just stepped across the threshold of existence, breathed the breath of life a little while, and then tottered back again to rest among the angels without a stain of sin or a taint of earth to rest upon its soul. We stood at the street corner, and watched the funeral trains as they passed. The rain from Heaven fell gently down upon them, and we thought of the old proverb:

"Happy is the bride that the sun shines on,
And blessed is the grave that the rain rains on."
—*Sacramento Standard.*

A DOWNEY LEGISLATOR.—A. C. Lawrence, of the last Legislature, whose cordial reception by his Trinity county constituents, has already been alluded to by us, made his friends a speech, in the course of which, amongst other true and just things, he said:

"There is one thing upon which I can congratulate the people of California, and that is the fact of having a man in the Executive chair who will leave the position he honors so much with a name and a series of acts and deeds which will remain an imperishable record in the archives of the State—reflecting the highest credit upon his character as a man of pure mind, sober and enlightened judgment, and an integrity as unquestionable as the justice of truth itself.

HORSES KILLED BY INDIANS.—A few nights since, while four men who had been out hunting for some time in the mountains, were encamped on Battle Creek, near Cold Spring Valley, in Tehama county, the Indians made a descent upon their horses, which were picketed out, and killed three out of the four, by cutting their throats and stabbing them back of the shoulder. The *Beacon* says it hopes to hear of the settlers in that section taking the matter in hand, and, "without any fuss or excitement, coolly wipe these blood-thirsty savages out of existence."

THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY FAIR.—The *Republican* states, that the prospects for a brilliant exhibition at Stockton, in August, are daily increasing. The citizens are subscribing very liberally towards improving the grounds, erecting buildings, &c., &c.

A BRANCH "PONY."—The Mariposa *Star* informs us that the citizens of that place have lately kept a pony express running between Mariposa and Hornitas, to intercept the Stockton stage. They thus receive the news fifteen hours in advance of the mail.

MINING ACCIDENT.—A miner named John Roach, in the employ of Col. Fremont, at the Steptoe vein, near Princeton, was severely injured a few days ago, whilst drilling out a blast.

OUR SPECIAL WASHOE CORRESPONDENCE.

VIRGINIA CITY, U. T., May 21, 1860.

I have just come in from a snow-storm on the 21st day of May, 1860! What think of that, you that are enjoying the glorious and bracing climate of Pacific's Queen, eating ice cream at Job's, and strawberries at Wimmer's? Two days ago it was snowing deliciously, and the ground was white as Murat's plume. We whites, who have come over the Sierras, deserve—how much commiseration, sympathy, or pity?—in our Indian troubles, after coming to this eastern slope, which could certainly never have been intended for anything to live in more civilized than the red-skins. But here we are, right or wrong, and our position must be made safe. This can only be done by overawing the Indians. They have slaughtered our countrymen. They have murdered them by day, massacred them by night, and the suspicion is entertained that some of the poor fellows in the recent fight, taken prisoners, were tortured during the hours of the Indians' triumphant war dance. One of the whites, who lay concealed within sight of the Indians on the battle field, thought he heard the sounds of some poor countryman's voice, while undergoing the horrors of Indian torture. But it is only suspicion, and for the sake of human nature, I hope it was not so.

Some six days ago, a man by name I think, of Lawrence Gedney, was in town, going, he said, to the battle ground, to reclaim if possible, the body of Major Ormsby, whose wife and brother, Dr. Ormsby, had offered, it is reported, one thousand dollars for such service. Gedney wished to get some one to accompany him. But instead, several pronounced him a spy, and talked of treating him as such. He however, was allowed to depart. He told Capt. Johns that he would return in seven days. In five days he returned, and brought the following report:

He left here a week ago, Tuesday, 15th. On Wednesday, he saw several Indians in small squads, one of three approaching, and entering into conversation. They had heard of the fight, they said, but had not been in it. While cooking his supper, a party approached, talked with him—Gedney speaks their language, and has lived with them for years—and after they had seen him commence eating, they turned to also, and, as he says, "nearly ate him out." They refused to eat until after they had seen him commence. They feared poison, of course. The next day he saw parties of Indians, two of which approached, united, and when within rifle shot distance, all presented their rifles, and waved a white flag, which he had displayed during all his tramp among them. They entered into conversation, asked him what was there for, where he was going, etc. He told them that he wished to go to Pyamid Lake, and wished to see Winnemucca, and also to procure some of the bodies of the slain. They told him that Winnemucca was not there, had not been in the fight, had been opposed to fighting, but had been outvoted. That they had been for fighting, and had been in the fight. They said that they had no objections to his taking the bodies, *if he could find them*, but that they were not on the battle ground. They would not tell him, however, what they had done with the bodies, nor anything about them, except that when he asked how many whites had been killed, they held up both hands with their fingers and thumbs open, intimating ten, and by shutting one thumb and two forefingers, intimated that seven Indians had been killed. They then warned him to leave, and he had to do so. He found the spot in the mountains where Dr. Tjader had informed him he had seen a dead white man lying. Gedney found evidences that a man had been lying there, but found no body. He discovered tracks of a pony and moccasins there. I suppose that the Indians had removed the body. He saw many tracks of horses going toward Walker's River, which corroborated reports brought in by other parties during his absence. This is his story. There are those who still think him a spy. I do not, but believe his report true.

There is a large body of volunteers in this vicinity, nearly ready to move toward Pyramid Lake, against the Indians. They will elect Col. Jack Hays to-day, without doubt, as their Commander. Captain Stuart, of the regular forces now at Carson, has informed Col. Hays that he will be pleased to act in concert with him and his volunteers in this campaign against the Indians. The election of a man like Hays, of national reputation as an Indian-fighter and an honest man, will have a very great and favorable influence. Many men will contribute for the expedition, both in supplies and in men, who otherwise would not.

Three of my tent-mates, Messrs. Vandewater, Blythe, and Colliers, of San Francisco, who have been out prospecting ever since the murders at Williams' Station, two weeks, in the country south and east of Carson River, have just returned, safe and well. They did not see any persons while out, except about five on horseback, about ten miles from them, in a valley. They could tell whether the party was composed of Indians or whites. All the miners had left that section of country. They saw some five hundred deserted wigwams. They had not heard of the fight at Pyramid until they returned to Carson River, where two men who had reached the bank opposite to them, thinking them Indians, and intending to shoot them as such at first, told them of the battle.

MAY 22d.—It has been snowing all night and all day, moderately, with immoderately cold weather, even for this place, and especially for this pleasant time of the year. Business goes on except here. The snow melts as fast as it falls, except on the mountains. Two hundred and fifty volunteers are encamped out of doors, in the Flowery District, four miles from this. Pleasant weather for such a campaign, and likely to try the grit of those engaged. They have just elected Col. Jack Hays as Commander of the volunteers. Forty more force will move soon. There has arrived a report that the dragoons at Honey Lake, with other forces, are marching upon Honey Lake, and intend fighting the Indians, whether joined by the forces from here or not. It is not known whether the Indians have a dead station at Pyramid Lake, or not. There is every reason to believe that the Carson Valley lead continues on still farther south of this, as there is one already discovered on Castle Peak.

Placer Diggings are good—what there are of them—better than any I have seen in California; but the diggings discovered up to this time are not sufficiently extensive to justify the great amount of emigration that I hear is on the way over the mountains.

This year there will be plenty of water, as the Ditch Company has tapped and dammed six lakes, which are the heads of Virginia Creek, from which the diggings were supplied last year.

INDIANS RETURNING.—W. B. Frazer, who has been hunting stock through the Cow Creek, Churn Creek, and Pitt River country, informs the Red Bluff *Beacon* that the Indians who were captured by General Kibbe, and taken to the Mendocino Reservation last fall, are returning. He saw a number of them and was told by them, that in a short time they would all be back at their old homes.

THE CROPS AROUND CHICO.—A correspondent at Chico, in Butte county, informs the Red Bluff *Beacon*, that the late heavy frosts, which prevailed throughout the Sacramento Valley, almost entirely destroyed the wheat on Major Bidwell's ranch, and also on many others in that vicinity. He estimates the damage done the Major alone will amount to five thousand dollars.

A Plea for the California Horse.

EDITORS ALTA:—Your associate, who writes "Notes on Amador Valley," although paying a certain tribute to the known qualities of the native Californian horse, concludes his remarks as follows: "It is then gross mismanagement for any body to raise pure-blooded Californian horses." Acknowledging, with all good-will, the "gross mismanagement prevalent in the native Californian, or Mexican system, of treating animals of every kind, I must disagree with him, if it be his opinion that the native Californian horse, or mustang, can be dispensed with for our country uses, or can be replaced for saddle purposes by any other breed or class of horses of English or American origin, which will combine the same valuable qualities, with an equally moderate price. The breed of horses thus condemned to extinction, possess qualities, and those qualities inherent in their blood, which are not to be found in any other race—the desert horse of the Eastern hemisphere excepted, and his improved descendant the "thoroughbred" of England and America—and from this same desert horse of the old world, our Californian mustang, degenerate as he now appears, traces his pedigree direct through the war horses imported to Mexico by the followers of Cortes.

Startling as the fact may at first glance seem, it is nevertheless true, that the origin of the English and American race-horse, "the thorough-bred," is one and the same with that of the Californian mustang. The race-horse of to-day proves what selection, care and uniform good keep can do during a series of generations. The mustang in his present inferiority in beauty, size, might, docility, shows merely the result of *his* treatment for many generations. What has this treatment been? In general, without attention paid to their breeding; allowed to propagate in every accidental manner, with no regard to quality or appearance in the male; age, fitness, or size in the female; and yet in spite of all this for so many years, and the regular starvation of every winter, (in itself sufficient to stunt and deteriorate any race of animals,) the original pure blood, away far back, tells, and we have still an animal which for the saddle uses, displays endurance, activity, spirit and speed, unequaled by any breed but one, the Eastern Desert horse and his off-shoot the "thorough-bred." Now, here in California, we have and we will have, (thank God,) for many a day, need of just such a horse as this; we have not, yet, *all* degenerated so far from our Spanish fathers as to know no use for the horse but to haul a dray, or "trot" in a buggy, pulling at a "two-forty" gait a big cigar, and a lazy dandy, too used up and effeminate to circulate his stagnant blood by riding on a horse like a man.

Where, then, are we going to get our saddle-horses if we do not breed them from the native Californian horse? However suitable the Morgans, Black Hawks, Canadians, for the plow, the dray, and, if crossed with a thoroughbred, for the buggy and carriage, but few horsemen will think of mounting in hand one of those heavy-headed, cock-throttled, dull, sluggish, unwieldy animals, to ride on his back two or three hundred miles, "you bet." He will look out for something of a different stamp, and will find what he wants in some wiry, active, spirited little mustang, which, with arched neck, and airy gate, will "lope" along graceful and easy, with comfort to himself and pleasure to his rider, and will keep up his ten miles an hour pretty nearly all day, and for a week at a time, and give no trouble about stabling, or grooming, or feeding, and after his journey is over, you can turn him out on the grass, and in three days time you have him as fresh as a daisy, and ready for another bout of the same kind.

If, then, such qualities are not worth keeping up, and a breed of horses possessing them is to be let die out, I think it is a bad sign of our "smartness," and one for which our descendants, the future Anglo Saxon Californians, are not likely to "bless our bones." On the contrary, with some attention, we have the means in our hands from this very mustang breed, of creating a race of horses which can not be surpassed in any country; but we will have to bear in mind the fitness of things, and not attempt absurdities, or the attainment of an end by means calculated to produce an effect the very reverse of what is aimed at.

In the opinion of the writer, we are "grossly mismanaging" the breeding of Californian horses; that is, we are either not managing it at all, and consequently allowing them to deteriorate, as the Mexicans did, or we are "improving them" "over the left," by crossing them with the wrong description of horse, one which will absolutely spoil the breed, and produce a race of mongrels, "neither fish, nor good red herring." We should breed them to make riding horses, and riding horses only. As I said before, they can be made the best in the world for our requirements, but the very qualities which render them suitable for this, are those which make them unsuitable for draught. Their temperament and disposition are nervous, quick, fiery, excitable—the very opposite of what is required in the patient, slow, docile horse, for farm and general draught work; and to render them able to be of use in draught, they must be increased in weight and size, and their very shape and conformation must be changed. The whole attempt to make them work horses is made at disadvantage; quite otherwise if we breed for what nature formed them for, saddle horses. To "improve" the native breed for this use seems a very simple process, and before permitting it to go on, I would suggest the experiment of raising Californian horses be tried in the following way:

Select a lot of the best Mustang mares which can be got; choose them large and roomy, sound and mature in age, and, if possible, those which have been handled, and are tame and gentle; select one dark colors, preferring the black; and breed them to a stallion, and then, instead of having the band ranging over the mountains till they are as wild as deer, and fear the face of man as much, take some trouble to domesticate them, *provide them and their foals with shelter and plenty of hay* during the inclement wintry season, and when the colts are first handled, instead of knocking them about, and abusing them till they are scared to death, and made vicious in self defence, begin early and by fair means, in the American fashion, and see if perseverance in such treatment does not improve size, form and disposition. Then, if a race of horses is desired, take the best cross, and try what will come from some of the best mares bred as above, and a thorough-bred horse. I am much mistaken if you would not see an animal in size and power nearly equal to the English hunter, and preserving the hardihood, activity and endurance derived from the "wild" blood of the California Mustang.

As yet, the mode generally advocated and pursued to "improve" the California horse has been, putting the common run of little weedy mares to some huge, bulky slob of a draught stallion, thinking thereby the grand object of size is to be gained, but much improvement in union have really been found to produce animals "but half made up," badly proportioned, with the faults of both and the good qualities of neither. MUSTANG.

COMMENT.—In our article No. 5, on Amador Valley, referred to by "Mustang," we said "the Californian horse is quick, tough, unsurpassable for the use of the rider and the vaquero; but he is small, lacks weight and strength, is not suited to hard, steady work with the plow or wagon, and is not beautiful." After referring to the low price of the mustangs, as compared with American horses, we added that it was gross mismanagement to raise pure-blooded Californian horses, leaving the inference to be drawn by the reader that the mismanagement consisted in breeding low-priced horses, when animals crossed with American blood, and therefore worth much more in market, could be raised, with the same care and little more expense. "Mustang" will admit that it is not so profitable, at least in the northern part of the State, to raise pure-blooded Californian horses as to raise American or cross-bred stock; and we admit the justice of the praise which he gives to the mustangs for riding and living on the open plain.—EDS. ALTA.

LANDER ON THE WAY.—Col. Lander's wagon road exploring and surveying expedition, passed up J street about half-past twelve o'clock, Thursday, on their way to Honey Lake, *via* Marysville and Oroville. The train consisted of eight stout covered wagons, and an ambulance. The wagons, as we have previously noticed, were built in this city, and the ambulance was formerly used by Colonel Lander, which he recently re-purchased. Each wagon was drawn by six fine-looking mules, and contained three or four of the men, their luggage, the provisions, and necessary apparatus of the party. A keg, capable of containing some twenty gallons of water, is hung under each wagon, to be used in crossing the deserts. The tents, five in number, were struck at noon. They are made of strong canvas, in the United States regulation style, about eight feet square, and two and a half feet wide. They are provided with a fly, to protect the roof during the extremely hot weather they will meet. The best of provisions are provided, and when the party arrive at a point where no fresh meat can be procured, stock will be driven along for the use of the party. The expedition will consist of Col. Lander and forty-two men, though it is probable some eight or ten more will be added; fifty-seven mules and twenty-seven horses. This number will also be increased. About ten of the party will return to Washington, after the expedition finish the work. Among the party are, besides Col. Lander, Mr. Wagner, Chief Surveyor; Messrs. Long, Poore and Hoffman, Surveyors; Mr. Renshaw, Wagon Master and also General Agent and Express Rider, and Mr. West, Assistant Wagon-Master; Mr. Briscoe, Clerk; John C. Burch, Paymaster; Mr. Snyder, Commissary. It is expected that the expedition will travel about fifteen or twenty miles per day until they reach the Honey Lake Pass. They will probably encamp about five miles from town to-night. The country to be explored lies between Honey Lake Pass and the bend of the Humboldt, and it is expected that the survey will be completed in about four months. Everything taken by the party—saddles, wagons and harness—is new and of the best quality. They have also taken plenty of lariats with which, if the Indian war continues, they intend to capture some of the enemy's ponies.—*Sac. Bee.*

THE CRYSTAL CAVE.—The beautiful subterranean retreat, lately discovered in El Dorado, is rapidly becoming a favorite place of resort. Over one hundred persons daily visit it, all of whom, so far as we have learned, express themselves as delighted with the manifold wonders of these earthy recesses.

The Survey of the New Helvetia Ranch.

J. B. Williams, Esq., U. S. Commissioner, sat in Sacramento, on Thursday, to take testimony relative to the survey of the ranch of New Helvetia, granted to John A. Sutter by the Mexican Government. The *Bee* makes the following report of the proceedings:

Edmund Randolph, Esq., appears for the United States, Col. Sanders, (we presume,) appears for Gen. Sutter, Messrs. Volney E. Howard, of San Francisco, and R. S. Mesick, of Marysville, for Mesick, Mr. Johnson, of San Francisco, for Roland Gelston. These proceedings are for the purpose of contesting a survey of the Sutter grant, made by A. Von Schmidt, under the instructions of Surveyor-General Mandeville, commenced Feb. 18th, 1860. The land granted is divided by Von Schmidt's survey into four lots, and contains an aggregate of 39,960 29-100 acres, excluding Sutter Lake. This, of course, takes in land north of the American River. The grant is made to cover land entirely to the river, and down a short distance below Sutterville, taking in both Sutterville and Sacramento.

The United States offer in testimony a map showing the height of the water at the intersections of several of the streets with N street at the time of the flood of 1853. It shows that at Front street it was 2 feet 6 inches above the natural ground; at Second, 2 feet four inches; Third, 7 feet 8 inches; Fourth, 9 feet 5 inches; Fifth, 12 feet 7 inches; Sixth, 12 feet 6 inches; Seventh, 8 feet 10 inches; Eighth, 5 feet 2 inches; Ninth, 5 feet 4 inches; Tenth, 5 feet 9 inches. This map was drawn by Mr. John Doherty, in October, 1859. In 1852, the present city gauge showed a height of twenty-two feet, and the height has been from eighteen to twenty-one feet several years past. The United States claims that in the years when the water was at the lowest the ground occupied by the city of Sacramento would have been partially overflowed were it not for the levee, and that if an average were made of the height of water for the past eight years, the level of the water would be several feet higher than the natural bank of the river.

The points proposed to be made by the Government will be principally that the land upon which this city is situated was overflowed ground, and also that Sutter sold a much larger amount of land than his grant called for, which land is situated north of the American River; and that by such act he elected his land as placed in that locality, virtually yielding his claims to the Sacramento city grounds. The Doherty map shows as overflowed all of the land west of Sutter's Fort, "Poverty Ridge," and the high part of Sutterville to the river, and south of the American as far as the lower portion of Sutterville. The dark spots upon the map show where the tulé formerly grew. It extended to localities which are now in the heart of the city. The map is based partially upon the calculations of Dr. Logan. Dr. Logan's affidavit presents many matters of interest. He states that he makes his calculations from the gauge erected by the city of Sacramento in 1856—the year when the water in the river was at the lowest point ever known. The mean depth of the channel is 16 feet below low water mark; the mean width of the river 300 yards. There is a tidal rise of one or two feet. This depends upon the state of the wind and the stage of the river. When the river is high, it is not affected by the tide, and the fall of the tide is much greater when there is a strong north wind. He says that the rainy season is generally from November to April, inclusive, and that there are generally more or less rains in October and May. The heaviest rise usually takes place in the river after the rains of the first of January, and the warmer the rains are, the greater is the rise. The rains of 1856 and 1857 were much less than those of other years within the last ten, and were an exception. The average height to which the river rose in 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855 and 1858 was 20.468. Including the years 1856 and '57, the average would be 18.501. Old residents give accounts of much heavier rains in past years than those which are experienced during these later years. The affidavit gives an interesting account of the different floods which visited the city for the last eleven years, and it is accompanied with maps and records which give the height of the water in each year, and also the quantity of rain which fell each season

The Amended Pilot Law.

CHAPTER CLII.

An Act amendatory of, and supplemental to an Act entitled an Act to establish Pilots and Pilot regulations for the port of San Francisco, passed May 11th, 1854, and of the several Acts amendatory thereof.

The People of the State of California, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. It shall be the duty of the Commissioners to appoint three experienced and competent citizens of the city and county of San Francisco, who, together with a person who shall be elected at a stated meeting to be called for that purpose by the Chamber of Commerce, and the President of the Chamber of Commerce of the port of San Francisco, shall constitute a Board of Pilot Commissioners for the port of San Francisco, and all the waters inside of the bar, passing through the mouth of the harbor of San Francisco.

§ 2. The persons so appointed or elected members of said Board, shall, before entering upon their official duties, take an oath for the faithful discharge of the same, and shall hold their office at the pleasure of the power so appointing or electing them.

§ 3. The Commissioners shall keep an office at San Francisco, and shall meet therein at least once in each month. They shall make by-laws and rules for their own government not inconsistent with the provisions of the laws of this State or of the United States, and a majority shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

§ 4. The Board may appoint a Secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep correct minutes of all the proceedings of the Commissioners, in such a book as is provided by them for that purpose, to receive all moneys and pay out the same, when ordered to do so by the Board, and to register the names of the pilots with the date of their license and place of residence. The books and registers shall always be open to public inspection. His compensation shall be fixed by the board of Pilot Commissioners.

§ 5. Neither the Commissioners nor Secretary shall have any interest, directly or otherwise, in any pilot boat, or the earnings thereof.

§ 6. The Commissioners shall have power to appoint, in the manner prescribed in this Act, such number of pilots for said port as they may deem necessary; provided, the number shall not exceed thirty.

§ 7. Persons applying to act as pilots for said port shall be American citizens, not under twenty-one years of age, and shall be rigidly examined by the Commissioners before two or more licensed pilots, touching their qualifications and knowledge of the management of square-rigged and other vessels, and of the tides, soundings, bearings, and distances of the different shoals, rocks, bars and islands of land, and night lights of the said harbor and bay; and, if deemed qualified, shall receive a license as pilot, and shall remain during good behavior, and good behavior, and shall be removable only for cause, as provided in sections 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 22 and 26 of this Act; said license to be renewed annually.

§ 8. Every licensed pilot, previous to entering upon the discharge of his duties, shall give bond in the sum of five thousand dollars, payable to the State of California, for the faithful performance of his duties; which bond shall be approved by the Commissioners and filed in their office.

§ 9. The Commissioners shall have full power to suspend pilots for misconduct or inattention to their duty, and on proof, shall revoke their licenses; provided, due notice be given the pilot, and an opportunity allowed him to be heard in his own defence.

§ 10. Every pilot who shall absent himself from his duty for more than one month, except on leave granted by the Commissioners, or by reason of sickness, shall be considered as having forfeited his license.

§ 11. Every pilot on boarding a vessel shall, at the request of the master, exhibit his license, and on refusal to do so, shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars.

§ 12. If any licensed pilot shall be once habitually intoxicated, or shall be intoxicated whilst in charge of any vessel as a pilot, he shall be dismissed.

§ 13. For carelessly or negligently losing a vessel, on conviction thereof, the pilot having charge of the vessel at the time shall be incapable ever after of acting as pilot and sh