

The Governor's Message.

The all absorbing topics of the hour are the meeting of the second California Legislature, and the Message of the Governor.

The great length of the Message precludes the possibility of our publishing it, but we propose to allude briefly to its main points. Its length is almost its only fault; it is, in most respects, a plain, straightforward, manly and sensible document, and will no doubt attract a great degree of attention, in the Atlantic States and England, as well as here. The peculiar position of our State affairs is thoroughly examined and discussed, and remedies of existing evils recommended.

After feelingly referring to the ravages of cholera, the destructive fires, and the severe pressure in our monetary affairs, the Governor proceeds to speak of the slavery question. This last subject might better have remained untouched; we consider the allusions to it uncalled for and unnecessary, and out of which no good can arise. They will only wake bitter feelings. He again recommends, as he did in his first message, the exclusion of free persons of color from the State. His arguments in favor of this step are some of them quite novel. He says "our constitution excludes this class of persons from the right of suffrage, and from all of honor or profit under the State; and our laws exclude them from serving on juries, and from appearing as witnesses against a white man." He therefore argues that "they are

State; and our laws exclude them from serving on juries, and from appearing as witnesses against a white man.' He therefore argues that "they are left *without motive*, to waste their labour for that improvement, which, when attained, *brings them no reward.*" He consequently wishes them entirely excluded.

The Indian difficulties in April last, at the confluence of the Gila and Colorado, and the recent skirmishes in Eldorado County, are detailed minutely, and the Governor thinks that the Indian race must become extinct before our troubles with them can cease.

The arguments used in favor of abolishing the publication of the laws in the Spanish language, strike us as being conclusive. The Governor says that with the same propriety we might, and must publish them in French and German, as these are as numerous in the states as those who speak the Spanish. And in concluding this subject he very justly remarks:—

"To speak one common language forms a strong tie between citizens of the same State and so long as the laws are published in different languages, so long one great incentive to learn that language is taken away, and the causes of a separation of different classes of our fellow citizens must continue."

He recommends a modification of the criminal laws, so as to make them operative, and truly says, "as administered, our laws have afforded no protection to the innocent, but have given great encouragement to offenders. A more prompt, decisive, and efficient mode of enforcing the criminal laws of the State must be adopted."

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He suggests the punishment of death for grand larceny and robbery. He continues:—

"This severe punishment I would not recommend as a permanent one, to be continued when the State shall have her county prisons, and her penitentiary; but such has been the frightful increase of these crimes since the adjournment of the Legislature, that I know of no other mode of punishment under present circumstances, that would be at all likely to check the evil, and prevent our citizens from taking justice into their own hands. The crime of grand larceny, in stealing horses and cattle, has become so common in many places as to diminish their value fifty per

per cent. In some instances, whole bands of tame cattle have been stolen, and farmers have lost all their teams, and been compelled to abandon their business in consequence. A firm and determined stand should be taken by the Legislature, and all the good citizens of the State, to extirpate these prevailing crimes. In the early periods of new communities, it has often been indispensably necessary to adopt more severe modes of punishment than would be justifiable in better regulated and older States. The State of Tennessee was infested, at an early day, with bands of horse thieves, and she was forced to adopt capital punishment in such cases; and a few years rigid and prompt execution of the law effectually checked the commission of the crime."

This portion of the message will no doubt be severely commented on by Eastern papers. We know there is, in these days, a sentiment against capital punishment, even for murder and arson; but no one, out of the State of California, can appreciate our position in reference to these depredations. We are satisfied that the people will not much longer submit to them, and to the uncertainty of their being punished by existing laws, and that if the State does not adequately punish them, Judge Lynch will. If the law does not deal severely and promptly with thieves, the want of action on the part of the State will lead to all manner of violence and mobs.

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to the lender also. The law making
the legal rate of interest in this State
ten per cent per annum is totally inop-
erative, on account of the provision that
any rate expressed in written contracts
is binding. We want usury laws, to
prevent the lenders of money from mak-
ing such exorbitant charges upon the
necessities of business men. The finan-
cial condition of the State can never be
on a prosperous footing so long as the
ruling rate of interest is ten or fifteen
per cent a month.

(To be continued.)

MARYSVILLE HERALD

MARYSVILLE, YUBA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1851.

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MARYSVILLE.

HAUN,
Attorney at Law,

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LIST OF LETTERS.

Remaining uncalled for in the Marysville Post Office, January 1st, 1851.

Persons calling for letters will please say they are advertised.

L

Latham John 2
Lobnitz Frank C 3
Larkin John S
Larkin Ezra
Larrison Chas M 2
Love William, Chatham
Lowe William
Lowe John S
Lowe George
Lowe Wm B
Lowe Capt
Lewis William E
Lockwood Rufus J
Lambert W C 2
Lawrence Amos G
Larimore G W
Layville G
Lacey H H
Lawton F

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Mathews John J
Mathews James
Moore John B
Moore Jonas
Martha Love 2
Merriman John
Merrymans Andrew
Murphy Dennis 2
Morris Matthew
Morris & Bellfield
Melbourne Edwin L 2
Mead Albert G
Meyer George W 3
Murry R
Murry James Glasgow 3
Miller Benjamin H
Miller Mr
Miller G or G M A 2
Miller Darius
May Alexander
Marschall Thomas G
Marsh Jerome W
Mecham A B & H
Malone Francis
Maynard E R
Mason George H
Murray James B
Morrow John
Minges Abraham
Mintz Benjamin
Mogler William
Marquis G G
Mortlock Samuel
Mott James
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Moore Capt Thomas
Muir Robert
Meehan Harrison
Mannon R W
Mann Francis M
Mann H. C. 2

Make William
Scholl Christian
Hera William
Sinks Wm
Sylar Samuel A
Santoni David
Sicche John
Samson Samuel B
Seaton Edmund
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S. W. Orlando
Stinkie Stephen
Spencer Philo G
Stokes Wm
Stimney John C
Stiles A

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Tilton Henry K W
Tinker Wm Wallace
Tolman James C
Thomer Robert
Toll R
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Wink & Dorsey
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Wemple Richard
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Woodward John G