

Horrible Indian Massacre.

A correspondent of the *Alta*, furnished an account of a horrid massacre of Indians by a party of twenty-one men known as the "Pitt River Rangers," near Rolf's Ranch, on Pitt river. Rolf and his two men had been engaged in cutting hay under a contract to supply the government station; the Indians had been working on the ranch, and were encamped about three hundred yards from the house. The attacking party surrounded the camp during the night, and the attack was made about daylight.

The party rushed upon the Indians, blowing out their brains and splitting open their skulls with tomahawks. Little children, in baskets, and even babes, had their heads smashed to pieces or cut open. Mothers and infants shared the common fate. The screams and cries of the victims were frightful to hear, but no supplications could avail to avert the work of devilish butchery. It will scarcely be credited that this horrible scene occurred in Christian California—within a few days' travel from the State Capital. Humanity sickens at the thought. Many of the fugitives were chased and shot as they ran. Where whole families had been butchered, was indicated by heaps of bodies composed of the mother and her little ones. The children, scarcely able to run, toddled toward the squaws for protection, crying with fright, but were overtaken and slaughtered like wild animals, and thrown into piles. From under the haycocks, where some of them had taken refuge, they were dragged out and slain. One woman got into a pond hole, where she hid herself under the grass, with her head above water, and concealed her pappoose on the bank in a basket. She was discovered, and her head blown to pieces—the muzzle of the gun being placed against her skull, and the child was drowned in the pond. The ground was covered with blood, and the brushwood ranches, of which there were fifty or sixty, were filled with the dead bodies. Old decrepid squaws, young girls and infants, none were spared. Guns, knives and hatchets were used, but the favorite method appears to have been staying in the head with tomahawks. The blush of dawn shone upon this fearful spectacle, and still the massacre went on.

When the slaughter was over, the shambles were examined, and more than sixty squaws and children, and ten Indian men, were found dead on the field. The murderers then returned to Rolf's house, and remained there a week within a few hundred yards of the charnel house, upon which the corpses were allowed to fester and rot in the blaze of day.

After the last squaw and child had been killed the brushwood ranches or butts were set on fire and the bodies burnt. The smell of burning flesh, the crackling of the flames, and the black smoke soaring up, was the closing scene of this tragedy, of which we cannot recall any parallel in our country's annals.

THE NEVADA DEMOCRAT.

VII, NO. 18.

NEVADA, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 1, 1860.

WHOLE

NEVADA DEMOCRAT,
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING,
BY I. J. BOLFE & CO.
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Nevada.

Wishes and Distresses.
NATIONAL EXCHANGE,
No. 32 & 84 Broad St. Nevada.
GEO. B. LANCASTER, Proprietor.

THE UNDERSIGNED WOULD RESPECT-
fully advise to the citizens of Nevada and
vicinity, and the traveling public, that the
National Exchange, No. 32 & 84 Broad
Street, Nevada.

THOROUGHLY FIRE-PROOF,
(fitting about two fires.)
The several apartments have recently been fitted up in
a style that cannot be surpassed.

THE TABLES will all times be supplied with all
the delicacies of the market.

GAMES UP TO ORDER.
Particular attention will be paid to the accommodation
of STRANGERS AND FAMILIES.

OPEN ALL NIGHT.
THE BAR, under the charge of an experienced
bar-tender, will remain supplied with all the
delicacies of the market.

UNITED STATES HOTEL!!
On Broad St. Nevada, a few doors below Fine St.

A LIVERY STABLE,
THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE RE-
cently purchased the building formerly occupied
as the "Commercial Building" for the purpose of
carrying on the livery business.

THE MOUNTAIN HOTEL!!
Their accommodations well-ventilated, and are furnished
with the most comfortable beds and bedding,
the Market street.

LETTINGS, per week,..... 50 and 75 cents.
GIBBS & PARKER, Proprietors,
Corner of Commercial and Broad
Streets, Nevada, September 1st 1859. 40-40

NEVADA DEMOCRAT.
-FURNISHING AT SAN JOSE—A large pub-
lic meeting was held at San Jose, on the even-
ing of Jan. 24th, for the purpose of giving ex-
pression to the general feeling in regard to the
present intemperance upon the New Mexican
Quitclaim mine. A series of resolutions were
unanimously adopted, declaring that the slop-
ping of the mine had seriously injured, and if
long continued would destroy the business en-
terprises of that county, and impair the mining
interests of the entire State; condemning the
policy of the government with reference to the
same, and asking the Legislature to memorial-
ize our Representatives in Congress on the sub-
ject. An idea may be formed of the earnest-
ness of the people, from the fact that a double
row of signatures over nine feet in length, con-
taining between 400 and 500 names, was ob-
tained to accompany the resolutions to the Cap-
itol.

THE TEXAS BORDEN TROUPE.—By the arri-
val of the steamer Arizona, at New Orleans,
Dec. 29th, the following particulars have been
received of an engagement between the Ameri-
cans and Cortina's band of outlaws. A com-
pany of three hundred troops and regiments
marched up the Rio Grande, and on the 15th,
met a portion of the Cortina's band. After a
cannonade on both sides, the Americans charg-
ed upon the Mexicans, but fell into an ambu-
cade, thus allowing the latter to save their ar-
tillery. On the 20th, Cortina's assembled his
whole force at a point above Brownsville. The
Americans went to meet him, and after a se-
vere fight the Mexicans were defeated. At last
accounts, Cortina was rapidly retreating, and
the Americans were in hot pursuit.

MORNING.—It is stated that Judge Cradle-
baugh, who is now in Washington, will use his
influence to prevent the organization of a new
Territory out of Western Utah. He thinks that
the Gentiles will be sufficiently numerous to
control the Mormons, in the course of a year,
or two, provided the Territory of Utah is not
divided, and will thus be able, in a great measure
to break up the Mormon theocracy, and enact
laws in accordance with American ideas of

ASTRONOMICAL.
It is generally supposed that anterior to the
Christian era, and even to a comparatively late
date, that the people of the entire world were
in a state of total ignorance and barbarism.
How far this may be true, in the absence of his-
toric records, it is difficult to tell, but the idea
has been greatly exaggerated in the minds of
the great works of engineering skill that time
has not yet been able to destroy, and the ac-
cess that the necessities of successive nations
have brought down in an improved state to the
present time. Much has been lost in the lapse
of ages, and the rise and fall of Powers, the
changes of language and of written characters,
to those who lived many hundred years ago,
are we indebted for much of our present know-
ledge of Astronomy, while recent discoveries
have proven, that at a period many centuries
preceding the Christian era, or the period of
reliable history, the people possessed a know-
ledge of extending astronomical changes in
almost as great perfection as at the present day.
From this it is but natural to suppose that
many sciences have flourished, in traditions and
discoveries made, the records of which are lost
in the abyss of ages.

**THE present arrangement of time, into which
the year is divided, we derive, with but slight
changes, from the astronomer of Julius Cæsar,
45 B. C. The solar year was then supposed to
consist of precisely 365 days and six hours; the
six hours in four years forming a day, which
was added by a decree of Cæsar to February,
making every fourth year to consist of 366
days. This arrangement, from the Emperor
during whose reign it was formed, was called
the Julian year, and is at present so denomi-
nated. This record exhibits the great advanc-
ment made by the ancients in the beautiful sci-
ence of Astronomy. It is now supposed that
the discovery of the alphabet, all records of
which is lost, save in the obscure hieroglyphics,
now found upon ancient monuments.**

**The system of dividing the year, as arranged
in the time of Cæsar, was adhered to for a pe-
riod of sixteen centuries, when it was found
that the equinox occurred several days pre-
vious to the appointed time. It was ascertain-
ed that the solar year consisted of 365 days, 5
hours, 48 minutes and 47-10 seconds, and be-
ing corrected in the time of Pope Gregory XIII
in the thirteenth century, it is now called the
Gregorian year. It is now determined, 1852,
that from that period, the year was divisible by
four every year whose number was divisible by
four without a remainder, should have a day
added excepting at the beginning of a century,
when, to prevent the errors of the Julian year,
the dividing number should be 400. Although
this is as near perfect as is necessary, in the
course of a few thousand years another correc-
tion will be needed. The present year, 1860**

**Mr. Paul du Chailin, born by a love of ad-
venture, has been hunting bears and birds in
Africa, for the last four years, and has return-
ed to New York laden with spoils, which he is
now exhibiting in that city.**
Among the novelties which he introduced to
the American public for the first time, are sev-
eral splendid specimens of that newly discov-
ered race of Troglodytes known as Gorillas.
These creatures are categorized monkeys, and
combine the cunning and subtleness of the Si-
man tribe with the monstrous power of at least
three prize fighters. One of Du Chailin's, He-
nry, and Merrick, all together. The larger
specimens are about five feet five inches high,
and fifty-two inches around the chest, with a
neck like a bull's, and arms as thick as a man's
leg. They eat fruit, but are furnished with
very long and sharp mandibles, like an equine's
or woodchuck's, and probably could tear flesh
as easily as a tiger. The general appearance
of the Gorilla is that of a lionelike caricature
on unshined, and some skeletons of the species
exhibited in the same collection, would be ear-
ly mistakes, on casual inspection, for the frames
of deformed human beings.

**Besides the Gorilla, of which there are sev-
eral representatives, old and young, Mr. Du
Chailin succeeded in "bagging" some simi-
lars of the same genus, which he claims to
be new varieties, and which, by right of dis-
covery he has honored with the long names of
"Nehigeo" and "Koola Kamba." The "Nehigeo"
is the most intelligent of all three, and
builds a canopy of boughs and leaves in a tree,
and squatting upon a broad branch beneath
this shelter, defies the rain and scorching sun.
It is to be regretted that Mr. du Chailin could
not have brought his trophies and birds to
this country in a living state; but that was di-
rectly impossible, owing to the want of assistance
which he had from the natives, and the great
distance of his—baiting ground—from the sea-
coast.**

**A REMARKABLE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN THIS
YEAR.**—The total eclipse of the 18th of next
July will be a very important one to the cele-
stic world. The Director of the Dorpat Obser-
vatory was the first to remark that at the mo-
ment of obscuration four of the principal plan-
ets—Venus, Mercury, Jupiter and Saturn—will
appear in the vicinity of the eclipsed sun as a
kind of rhomboidal figure, phenomena of such
extraordinary rarity that many centuries will
elapse before its repetition. Darkness will
commence and terminate on the land, the local-
ities being California and the shores of the Red
Sea. Between these extreme points the eclipses
will be visible in North America, from where

**SKULL EXAMINED BY
Dr. J. P. Kirtland, of
the University of
Michigan, has been
found to be that of
a man who lived in
the time of the
ancient Egyptians,
and who was buried
in the pyramids.
The skull was found
in the pyramid of
Cheops, and was
examined by Dr. Kirtland
in 1847. It was found
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