

### Our Interior Connections.

Seven years ago, Humboldt county and Bay, with the exception of Mr. Wood's party in the fall of 1849, were innocent of any knowledge of the Anglo-Saxon race. The Indian roamed over its wilds, hunting and fishing and fighting, as occasion offered, fearless of anything save the grizzlies or a hostile tribe; and another earth, with maiden-coyness, held concealed her treasures of wealth in her bosom, wrapped in her garments of velvet green, until the bold and enterprising hand of the white man came and wrested them from her reluctant embrace. Now the scene is changed. The crack of the hunter's rifle has driven to the interior and down the coast the mad animals which furnished meat to the natives, and the plough of the farmer eradicated the plants which afforded them vegetable food, and the scanty remnant which lingers on the coast, draw now their chief support from the waters, and eke out a living by small supplies from the larders of the whites, to whom they are in fact becoming hewers of wood and drawers of water. Another cycle of seven years, and the last vestiges of their race will be well nigh obliterated, in this vicinity, crushed out, like other imbecilities, under the iron heel of progress and the steady and resistless march of civilization, and the places they once occupied will resound with the busy hum of industrious whites, and the loom, the plough and the anvil, supersede the Indian arrow and hunting knife. But we are moralizing on the fate of races, instead of paying suitable respect to "our interior connections." Well, we could not help pausing to note and pity, though we could not avert, the fate of the simple and untutored savage; it is a three-fold tale, and we have often read it, but never before saw it passing like a moving panorama before our eyes.

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Since the first settlement of this Bay, there has been an uninterrupted trade with the mines. In fact that trade was the magnet which drew hither the hands of explorers who discovered and located the various points on the Bay. The first trade was done wholly upon the Lower Trinity. Goods from this point seldom went farther up than the North Fork of the Main Trinity, and that stream, and its tributaries below that point, constituted the entire market for merchandise from this Bay, for some two years or more. Other places then began to attract the floating population of miners. The settlements began to extend lower down the Trinity River, and on to New River. The Klamath opened a new field for trade and enterprise, and its tributary the Salmon came next, and both increased in importance until they had out-run, in the value of their purchases, very considerably, the original and the single one of the Trinity. On all three of these rivers, although surface prospectors no longer make their one to six ounces per day, the number of miners, and the extent and productiveness of the diggings, has been constantly on the increase, and we venture the assertion that whenever and as long as improved processes of mining shall be introduced and adopted, then and so long will the annual yield of gold be increased.

Within the past year a new route has been opened to the upper part of Trinity, which by its superior facilities and cheapness of transit for goods from San Francisco, bids fair to draw into this channel an amount of merchandise considerably larger than that heretofore sent either to the Klamath, Salmon or lower Trinity. All of these grand divisions or sections of mining region, are yearly increasing in productiveness and population, and corresponding value as commercial markets, and although a portion of the supplies for the Klamath and Salmon are drawn from points on the coast, and

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we have but begun to dispute with Shasta  
and Red Bluffs for the trade of the upper  
Trinity, the natural commercial advantages  
of our position, if properly sustained and de-  
veloped by an improvement of judiciously se-  
lected roads, cannot fail ultimately to secure  
for this Bay all but a very small fraction of  
the trade of the whole region. Every consid-  
eration of interest then, every fresh fact that  
is developed, a retrospect of what has thus  
far been accomplished, the fact, true the  
world over, that the largest markets are the  
cheapest, ought to furnish a fresh stimulus  
and encouragement to our citizens, never to  
halt or forbear in their efforts to make this  
Bay, what nature intended it should be, the  
point of supply and commercial outlet for a  
country embracing two degrees of latitude  
and over one and a half of longitude.

