

**TERRIBLE CALAMITY.**—The residence of Col. E. A. Stevenson, about three miles from Red Bluff, was consumed to ashes, together with his wife, three children, and a Mrs. Kronk and her two children, on Friday night of last week. Mr. Kronk, Col. Stevenson's overseer, was in the house, but by some means managed to escape, though so badly burned that it is doubtful about his recovery. Col. Stevenson was formerly Indian Agent at the Nomee Lackee, and was absent at Tehama at the time of the fire. Mrs. Stevenson had two brothers sleeping in a granary, some distance from the dwelling house, which was burnt; but they escaped, although not till after the women and children were burnt. It is generally supposed that the fire was the work of Indians. The Sacramento papers have a telegram in regard to the supposed incendiary, saying:

"Immediately after the fire he left on one of Col. Stevenson's best horses. He was pursued by one of our citizens, and captured some fifteen miles from this place on the road to Shasta.

"He has made various statements, one of which is, that he assisted in setting fire to the premises under the orders and in the fear of five other Indians, who threatened to kill him if he did not assist them. But the story does not receive credit. It is thought that he is the author and perpetrator of the whole affair. He is only ten or twelve years old, but a remarkably smart boy. He is a Pitt River Indian, and was on his way to join his tribe when captured."

# Sonoma County Journal

PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1859.

### PIKE'S PEAK

Some parodist, with Longfellow's "Excelsior" his mind, thus touches up Pike's Peak. It is

### JOHN EASTMAN'S LUCK,

BY EMILY C. HUNTINGTON.

depends on the management." The old gentleman took up his cane and went out of the shop, saying pleasantly, "You must learn to carry your spoon more steadily."

### FRANKLIN'S MAXIMS.

The following from the pen of the great American philosopher, Dr. Franklin, should