

CRUELTY TO INDIANS.—Robt. Phillips lately, committed an assault upon a squaw at Trinidad, and upon her resisting, stabbed her so severely that her life was despaired of. He was subsequently arrested, and held in custody to await the possible fatal result of his victim's wound. He has since been admitted to bail.

The above is the simplest record of an act of brutality, that is, alas, neither too inhuman or reckless, to be infrequent. We have every reason to believe that similar grievances have occurred that have never been brought to legal investigation. And we had not long since chronicled one, where through technicality of the law, the offender went "unwhipt of justice." If the affair ended with the punishment of the crime, well and good. But unfortunately, it does not.

For every wanton and unprovoked attack upon these miserable beings whom our law, and common humanity declares we should protect, a wicked retaliation is sure to follow. When the first transgressor escapes the law, this retribution falls upon some unoffending man. Thus does injustice beget injustice and crime beget crime. Indian outrages have been committed that might be traced directly to the perpetration of some such barbarity as that recorded above. We cannot see that retaliation under such circumstances is a bit more reprehensible than the provocative act. And it is a painful reflection that the provocation is usually the work of the white civilizer.—*Northern Californian.*

