A Vigilance Committee.—We are opposed to mob law as is practiced in some of the States, but have ever since our residence in this State, opposed to the formation of Committees consisting only of respectable citizens, men not liable to be led away by excitement, but who could coolly and dispassionately adjudge the merits of a question or the guilt or innocence of a prisoner, outside of a court room. If there ever existed a necessity for such an association, it is in our country, as has been fully shown within the past two months. A citizen of the county has his dearest rights trampled on, his sanctuary polluted, himself slain, basely assassinated, the wife of his bosom, not satisfied with dishonoring his bed, is proven to have instigated, encouraged and excited her paramour to take his life. The murderer is arrested, sufficient testimony is elicited to have hung both, but by an unfortunate omission, the woman is not indicted. Her testimony though of minor import except to prove her complicity in the murder is used for the State and she unfortunately for justice occupies a place in the witness, instead of the criminal box. The facts of the case are clear, the prisoner is convicted and after sentence, makes a confession which if published in his own language would not only harrow up the feelings of our readers but disgust them. The answers of the woman to questions put by the District Attorney were too obscene and filthy to find a place in any paper. The prisoner has been allowed to escape and the woman is at large. So much for justice.

A few weeks ago an honest and industrious citizen of Wetتويتر was killed by the Indians; one of the murderers was killed by friendly Indians in their endeavors to capture him; this week two others were captured and are now in confinement at Fort Humboldt awaiting the acquisition of the civil authorities. We would regret to see them taken by the civil authorities and confined until
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A few weeks ago an honest and industrious citizen of Wcott River was killed by the Indians; one of the murderers was killed by friendly Indians in their endeavors to capture him; this week two others were captured and are now in confinement at Fort Humboldt awaiting the requisition of the civil authorities. We would regret to see them taken by the civil authorities and confined until the April term of the District Court which could only be done at an expense of several thousand dollars which to our already over taxed people would be far too onerous and at the same time if the pleasure of the criminals were consulted they would prefer to be hung up at once. The most important feature of the last murder is that suspicion is fastened upon a white man who if Indian testimony was allowable would be hung. Collateral circumstances alone are almost sufficient to convict him.

While we can but commend our citizens for their law abiding conduct, we at the same time, wish it understood that we are opposed to a resort to such extreme measures as the usurpation of the laws and administering of justice except in extreme cases such as we have had lately. In the absence of a Court House and a secure jail as is the case in this county, there exists a necessity for the organization of a committee of citizens to aid our officers in the arrest and safekeeping of criminals.
THE HUMBOLDT TIMES.

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1854.

A Vigilance Committee.

[A newspaper article discussing a vigilance committee]