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Daily Alta California, Volume 1, Number 76, 28 March 1850 — LOCAL MATTERS. [ARTICLE]

LOCAL MATTERS.

Alcalde's Court—Before Judge Geary.—William Edwards was brought up for trial before this court for stealing a pair of Colt's Revolvers, and some silk handkerchiefs, the property of Joel Burnell and George Marcy. The testimony against the prisoner being conclusive, the court sentenced him to the chain gang for one year, to be employed as the authorities direct.

Assault and Battery.—Christiani Lunt and Jack Craig were brought up for an assault and battery on Capt Southard on the Long Wharf. The court held the prisoners to bail in the sum of \$600 each to keep the peace for six months. The necessary bonds were given and they were discharged.

Grand Jury.—The grand jury at their last session found a true bill against Francisco Ramirez, for the murder of Plantier on the 5th inst. Also true bills were found against James Clayton and William Gatson, for larceny.

It will be seen by an advertisement in another column that the steamer California, Capt. Budd will be ready to leave again on the 1st April, notwithstanding the short time allowed since her arrival. Her coal for the voyage is already on board.

Highway Robbery.—Yesterday while a carman was bringing a load of wood from within a few miles of the city, he was attacked by three men, who rushed out from the bushes and demanded his money. Being alone he freely gave all he had in his possession—being nearly \$10—and then was allowed to pass on. We advise the carman to lay the case before the authorities, so that the scoundrels may be brought to justice.

Fire.—Yesterday morning about 4 o'clock, another alarm of five was given by officer Nichols who discovered smoke issuing from a small building in the rear of a clothing store on Kearney near Sacramento street. The citizens turned out strong and by great exertions succeeded in extinguishing it with but little damage all of which was confined to the building where it originated.

Police.—Auvery Francis was yesterday fined \$5 for discharging a gun within the limits of the city, contrary to law.

Another Expedition off.—The schooner Jacob M. Ryerson, Capt. Wm. S. Dennison, sailed yesterday for Trinidad bay with 67 passengers. Among that number were four clergymen, four physicians and a number of scientific gentleman.

TROUBLE WITH INDIANS ON THE STANISLAU.—A friend from the mines has favored us with the particulars of a deplorable event, which took place recently on the Upper Stanislaw. Some six weeks since, one Wm. Hunter and another man, residing at Carson's creek, purchased two mules from a man named Parkno, which were stolen a few days afterward. They tracked them to near an Indian ranche, where they saw an Indian and a boy, who told them the mules were at the ranche, and that Parkno was there also. When within about a hundred yards of the ranche the Indians began to run. Hunter immediately shot him, and then knocked down the boy, and would have killed him, but for his companion. A body of Indians fired upon them with arrows, but they escaped unhurt. The Indians afterward had a "talk," and all agreed to let the matter rest. But notwithstanding this, Hunter was afterwards heard to declare that he would take the price of his mules in Indian scalps, and, unfortunately, this reaching the ears of the Indians, probably induced the catastrophe which followed. Not long subsequent to this event a party of twelve, consisting of Hunter, his brother, F. B. Hoskinson, J. Shelton, H. B. Cottrell, D. Parker, A. P. Osborne, and five others, started on a prospecting tour among the forks of the Upper

proceeding down among the rocks of the Upper Stanislaus. The party separated, Hunter, his brother, Hoskinson, Shelton, and Cottrell, in one party—the other seven proceeding up another canon. In a deep and narrow part, the former party was suddenly assailed by a shower of arrows, and Hunter and his brother were mortally wounded. Hoskinson and Cottrell made a rush for an opening where the Indians would not be likely to attack them. Shelton seeing his companions fall, stood by until told by them to save himself, if possible, as they were dying. Shelton left them, not however until the Indians had commenced throwing down rocks, one of which struck one of the dying men. Shelton, after much fatigue and suffering, reached Murphy's New Diggings, twelve miles above Carson's creek.

Strange to say, though the arrows fell thick around him, he was untouched. He fired several times, and thinks he brought down two or three Indians. Osborn and Parker, and their party, were also attacked, but all escaped, with the exception of Parker, who was struck by an arrow, which, but for his shoulder blade, might have proved mortal. Hoskinson, of Hunter's party, was wounded in the fleshy part of the hip, by an arrow. Hunter and his brother were killed about twenty miles above Pass le Pine.

Since the above occurrence, a trader at Carson's, while bringing in part of a beeve, had one quarter stolen by Indians. On his return to the spot where the beef was killed, he was grossly insulted by the Indians, and one of them proceeded to draw his bow upon him; when, as a matter of safety, he shot him down—a thing to be regretted, but, under the circumstances, probably justifiable.—[*Stockton Times*.