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Daily Alta California, Volume 4, Number 89, 31 March 1853 — TOTAL LOSS OF THE STEAMSHIP INDEPENDENCE [ARTICLE]

TOTAL LOSS OF THE STEAMSHIP INDEPENDENCE!!

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE LIVES LOST!

At a late hour last night we received the sad intelligence of the above catastrophe, but are unable to issue it in our regular edition. We shall issue an Extra containing full particulars.

The Senate were informed on yesterday by Mr. CERRROTH, Chairman of the Special Committee on the State Prison Contract investigation, that the report of the Committee would be submitted this day. We shall present our readers to-morrow with the report of the Committee *in extenso*.

Mr. WILLIAMS, Senator elect from the counties of Trinity and Klamath, was sworn in and took his seat.

The Assembly were engaged nearly all the morning in Committee of the Whole, on the consideration of a bill providing for the better observance of the Sabbath. The section prohibiting public exhibitions was most violently yet eloquently opposed by Mr. Speaker WALL, Mr. HUNT, a member from Los Angeles, who, by the way, is a Mormon, and by Mr. PROCTOR of Siskiyou. The bill was ably and strenuously supported by Messrs. BOSTWICK, HALLY and CABANNIS. The bill will probably pass with amendments thereto.

Mr. FLOWER's substitute to the 4th section of the Water Lot bill was lost yesterday by *two* majority. There were sundry other amendments adopted, one to the 7th section, authorizing the publication of the notice of sale of the property in the daily newspa-

...ence of sale of the property in the daily newspapers of San Francisco and Sacramento, and the papers of Stockton and Marysville. As the boat left, the House was engaged in the discussion of a new section, offered by Mr. JOHNSON, binding the Commissioners under oath not to interest themselves pecuniarily in this property. Strange to say, members were found on the floor advocating the doctrine that the Commissioners have the right to purchase this property. Messrs. BRUSH and LEAKE opposed the adoption of the section.

The bill will come up again in open session to-day, and will pass by two or three majority.

Indian disturbances have begun again in the Northern and Southern portions of the State. The principal feature of the tidings this morning from Los Angeles is the threatening state of Indian affairs. A statement appears in the Los Angeles paper prepared by Mr. B. D. WILSON, Indian Agent for that district, in which he advises the organization of volunteer companies to go against the tribes who cause the chief annoyance to the people of Los Angeles and vicinity; and urges that they may be whipped into subjection and taught to respect American laws by a timely, vigorous and determined step of this kind. Mr. WILSON is probably better acquainted with the habits and disposition of those Indians than any other American residing at the South, and his counsel is not without its weight. In former times, during the reign of Spanish law, the rancheros could only compel obedience to their government by such a course as that which Mr. WILSON proposes. There is danger, however, that volunteer companies, not under sufficient restraint to check the propensity to profit by an advantage, may be guilty of indiscretions and excesses in the destruction of human life and appropriation of property among the Indians, that will not be altogether creditable to the State, nor agreeable to the feelings of the Indian Agent.