

**NUISANCE.**---That class of persons who make it their sole occupation to solicit passengers and freight for vessels and boats, and who are commonly known as "runners," have lately become so intolerable as to call for action on the part of the commanders of the different boats plying in the Stockton trade. Some time since a combination was entered into by all the boats plying in the same trade to fix a standard of prices that would pay, and to dispense with runners altogether. Since that time, however, the annoyance to the public and to the traveling community has rather increased than diminished. "Running" is a legitimate business, sanctioned by law, and persons engaging in that business are required to obtain a license, the same as a merchant or other dealer. As soon as their services were dispensed with by the captains of the boats, the runners immediately set to work to influence all the passengers and freight to be shipped exclusively on some boat of their choice, thus attempting to coerce other boats to hire them for their use or buy them off altogether. This is a regular system practiced by those who wish to compel boats to engage

runners receive any compensation for their services, as they are authorized by law to pursue that calling so long as they comply with the requisitions of the License ordinance, and do not commit a breach of the peace. Complaints have been instituted against them, but the law is inadequate to prevent this general annoyance.

**INQUEST.**---On Friday last Justice Greer held an inquest on the body of a man named David Swanson, who came to his death by the falling of a limb while engaged in cross-cutting logs at Whipple's saw-mill, on Turk's ranch, at the Redwoods. A large redwood limb fell on the head of Swanson, killing him immediately. The deceased was an Englishman by birth, many years a resident of California, and highly esteemed by all who knew him. The jury rendered the following verdict: "That David Swanson came to his death by the visitation of God, in the falling of the limb of a tree on deceased's head, while at work."

**ABDUCTION.**---On Sunday evening last, between 7 and 8 o'clock, P. M., an Indian girl about thirteen years of age, was abducted from a private residence on Pinckney street. A Mexican named Jesus Moreno, is supposed to have been the gallant knight who won the affections of the confiding native. The parties are believed to have gone in the direction of Contra Costa or Stockton. A reward is offered for the apprehension of the fugitive maiden, and her restoration to the domestic hearth.