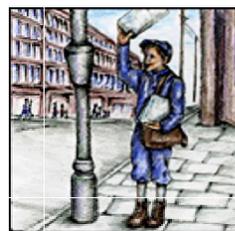




powered by



A Freely Accessible Repository
of Digitized California
Newspapers from 1846 to the
Present

Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 5, Number 666, 12 May 1853 — THE CITY. [ARTICLE]

THE CITY.

POLICE SALARIES.—It was the pleasure of the Council at their last meeting, by a direct vote, to refuse an increase of police salaries. The City Attorney had given his written opinion favorable to the power of the Council to make the increase under the charter, a committee had reported in its favor, and some six or seven hundred tax-payers petitioned that the increase might be made. Notwithstanding these forcible appeals, the Council believed the act would be unlawful, and set their faces against it. Gov. Burnett spoke at length in opposition to the measure, and a majority of other gentlemen concurred in the tenability of his positions. The time for agitating the question has therefore gone by; but it may not be amiss to remark, that the legal opinion of the worthy City Attorney was rather cavalierly treated, when, after asking that it might be given, it was incontinently set aside. The argument of Gov. Burnett, that the city had entered into a contract with the policemen, which could not now be altered or revoked without doing violence to a sacred stipulation, falls at once to the ground, when it is stated that heretofore, in compliance with the recommendation of the Captain of Police, his subordinates have been removed at will by the Council; and when it is further known, that immediately subsequent to the conflagration, the Council took the liberty of diminishing the police force as a measure of economy to the city. With all due deference to the opinion of the distinguished gentleman, he will find that the circumscribed meaning given by him to the term "elect," is not in accordance with the definitions of standard modern lexicographers. Neither is there

standard modern lexicographers. Neither is there any analogy between the officers of the police and those selected by the people. We would have the worthy gentleman remember this one fact, that the charter could not refer to policemen, *for there were no such officers in existence until they were appointed by the Council.* The Council, in its discretion, can say *how many* policemen it will create, or whether it will have any police officers *at all.* Clearly, this was recognised as a principle under the old Board, whose action, in a number of instances, corresponded with the belief. Had we space, it would be an easy matter to multiply arguments to prove those of Gov. Burnett fallacious. Where the charter alludes to policemen, it does so *presumptively*—that is, with a *constructive* belief that such officers *are* to exist, as under most other city governments, for the preservation of public order and the maintenance of municipal law. It would be ridiculous for it to assume any other control over officers who have a name only prospectively, and who, when appointed, are the creatures of those bringing them into existence, liable to be discharged for the first dereliction of public duty, and their places conferred upon others. Where is the analogy, then, between a police officer and those elected by the people under the charter? Can the Mayor, or Marshal, or Recorder, be turned out of office before the expiration of their terms, without impeachment before a court of justice? Certainly not. A policeman can. The Council makes him, and can undo him: *ergo*, the Council has full and entire control over his salary, and can increase or diminish it at will.

THE THEATER —An inclement night is never favorable to fashionable places of public amusement; consequently there was a thin audience to witness the performance of the Love Chase last evening. Want of room allows us to say but a word of the acting. Mrs. Mansfield, Proctor and Woodward were excellent. Mr. Proctor is better calculated for heavier parts. In the character of Wildrake, Mr. Venue was passable, and, as Trueworthy is little more than a supernumerary, it would be unjust to express any opinion of Mr. McGowan's style. Spar—"old" Spar, as he is familiarly termed by the Bostonians—has a face that would out-grimace his satanic majesty. He is reliable in everything he undertakes, and is bound to be popular.

RANGER.—A steamer of this name, about the size of a "piece of chalk," J. L. Smith, master, lies at the mouth of J street, and is advertised for a voyage

to the Red Bluffs and intermediate points. She is side-wheeled, contains twelve berths, and will carry probably 20 tons of freight. As a real curiosity, she is worthy to be seen. Her appearance on the water is trim, and it is said that she can make as "howling" a noise as the largest steamers on the river.

DANCING SCHOOL.—It has been suggested to us by several fathers of respectable standing in community, that a dancing school opened at this time, and properly conducted, would receive a liberal support. The suggestion is therefore thrown out to those whom it concerns.

Messrs: Editors: The following admonition to husbands is too sound and appropriate to be doomed to a limited circulation. Will you not republish it for the benefit of those in this country who so peculiarly require the attention and care recommended by the writer? Upon the husbands of California, such advice must exert a salutary influence. Too many of them are indifferent to the obligations of domestic life, and really act as if a wife were singularly constituted if she could not content herself with the never ending in-door drudgery of house-keeping. Too many of them are in the habit, not only of absenting themselves from their houses and entailing upon their wives a lonely solitude unnecessarily, but too often make their absence a cause of expending means for their own selfish enjoyments which, in some instances, have been earned by the "weaker vessel." The admonition is a timely one, and I hope you will invite particular attention to it:

HOW TO TREAT A WIFE.—You may have great trials and perplexities in your business with the world, but do not, therefore, carry to your home a cloudy or contracted brow. Your wife may have many trials, which, though of less magnitude, may have been as hard to bear. A kind, conciliating word, a tender look, will

do wonders in chasing from her brow all clouds of gloom. You encounter your difficulties in the open air, fanned by heaven's cool breezes; but your wife is often shut in from these healthful influences, and her health fails, and her spirits lose their elasticity. Put oh! bear with her; she has trials and sorrows to which you are a stranger; but which your tenderness can deprive of all their anguish. Notice kindly her efforts to promote your comfort. Do not take them all as a matter of course, and pass them by, at the same time being very sure to observe any omission of what you may consider duty to you. Do not treat her with indifference, if you would not sear and palsy her heart, which watered by kindness, would, to the latest day of your existence, throb with sincere and constant affection. Sometimes yield your wishes to hers. She has preferences as strong as you, and it may be just as trying to yield her choice as to you. Do you find it hard to yield *sometimes*? Think you it is not difficult for her to give up *always*? If you never yield to her wishes, there is danger that she will think you are selfish, and care only for yourself; and with such feelings she cannot love as she might. Again, show yourself manly, so that your wife may look up to you, and feel that you will act nobly, and that she can confide in your judgment.

A PREDICTION.—Time that will be required to make the entire circuit of the globe in the year 1860:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| From New York to San Francisco..... | 4 days |
| From San Francisco to Hong Kong..... | 24 days. |
| From Hong Kong to Calcutta..... | 6 days |
| From Calcutta to Bombay..... | 12 days. |
| From Bombay to England..... | 34 days. |
| From London to New York..... | 10 days. |

Total..... 90 days

By railroad and ocean steamers, live Yankees will, in the year 1860, travel around this terrestrial ball in 90 days—taking a look at Kanakers, Celestials, Japanese, East Indiamen, Arabs, Greeks, and Turks, which are supposed to include the “balance of mankind.” Young America is prepared for the race. Just let him go, and you could “play marbles” on his coat-tail. Let him rip!!—he’s all oak.

Yours, O. P.

To the Editors of the Union— Communicated.

GENTLEMEN: In your to-day's number of the *Union*, we notice the statement of an Indian difficulty having occurred on Caulfield's ranch, which is not the case. The ranch belongs to the Indians, and has been owned by them for generations gone by. Caulfield has forced from them their homes and the burial ground of their ancestors. The Indians have shown no disposition to be hostile or contentious, as all their neighbors will testify. * * *

Sacramento, May 11th.

MISS KATE HAYES.—A farewell concert is about to be given to this lady at San Francisco, who designed leaving for the Atlantic States on the steamer of the 16th.