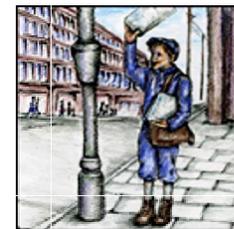


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Daily Alta California, Volume 4, Number 205, 26 July 1853 — LETTER FROM THE MOUNTAINS.
[ARTICLE]

LETTER FROM THE MOUNTAINS.

Mining Affairs -- Local Incidents.---Political
Items.

Items.

COLUMBIA, July 22, 1853.

The mining prospects in this vicinity still continue encouraging. The miners here have a good supply of water and are mostly doing well, while some are making "big pay." Editors generally are not very lucky, but the editor of the *Columbia Gazette* is an exception, if I may judge by the amount of gold I have seen washed out from the sluice of the company in which he owns a share. There are four shares in the claim, and they take out from four to fourteen ounces a day. The claim is on a side hill near Columbia. It pays from the surface down as deep as they have gone, which I judge is about twenty feet in the deepest part. When they wash to dirt, say for six feet down, they get about four ounces, in all, a day; but from that down they have been getting eight, ten, twelve and fourteen ounces a day. The claim bids fair to last for months.

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The Chinese prove very troublesome to the miners, as they rob the sluices whenever they have an opportunity. Some of the boys have a notion of sending for the Rev. Mr. Spear, who is so desirous of having the Chinese immigration encouraged in order that the Celestials may get religion. They think that the Rev. gentleman would have a fine chance here to try the efficacy of his preaching on the Chinese, taking the eighth commandment for his text. By the way, as Mr. Spear is so anxious to convert the Chinese that he is willing to throw open our mines to them, and to allow them to come in competition with our laboring men throughout the State, why does he not go farther, and contend for the filling up of California with millions of all the degraded nations of Asia; I have no doubt but the vilest sinner among them would be willing to be converted if he could make his pile out of the operation.

We had another alarm of fire to-day. A building situated in the centre of the town was found to be in flames, but by timely exertion the fire was extinguished.

The party that went out to hunt the Indians have returned—all of them safe, contrary to stories that were afloat previous to their arrival. They had n't seen so much as an oldsquaw.

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A case of attempted rape is reported at Shaw's Flat. The people, it is said, arrested the man, whipped him within an inch of his life and banished him the country.

Mr. Waldo, the Whig candidate for Governor, is to be here to-morrow. He is accompanied by Mr. Wright, the candidate for Treasurer.

Freight from Stockton to the mines is lower than it has ever been before.

We had yesterday what would be called "dog days"

weather at home—clouds and sunshine.

MOUNTAINEER.