

OUTRAGE ON FRENCH MISSIONARIES AT SHANGHAE.—Two Chinese converts in the service of the French Missionaries were on the 21st December seized by the rebel guard at the East Gate, taken into the city, and one of them at least severely bamboo'd. A French priest having threatened the rebels with a warlike force from the men-of-war, the catechists were given up, (we suppose on the 23d.) The French authorities then demanded the surrender of the perpetrators of the outrage, that they might be dealt with at the French Consulate as might be thought proper; but the demand not having been promptly complied with, the French men-of-war were moved up the river on the 25th, and notice given that unless satisfaction were afforded before noon next day, the city would be bombarded. The threat, and the intervention of a reverend and secular partisan of the rebels, had the desired effect, and an individual represented to be the one who seized the catechists, along with several others of his fellows, was escorted by the two individuals referred to and a guard of French seamen, to the Consulate; and there, having admitted their crime and deserved punishment were magnanimously, or as our cotemporary says, "politely," forgiven, and escorted back to the city unscathed.

TWENTY-TWO INDIANS KILLED.—We are informed by Messrs. Jeffreys and Pope, who are just from Pitt river, that the Company of Settlers, forty in number, that went out some days since under Capt. Johnson, with the design of whipping the Indians on McCloud river, attacked a party of twenty-six of them on Friday, the 24th instant, killing twenty-two and severely wounding three others, one only having escaped unharmed. Many of the savages killed were wearing some of the clothing which they robbed from the large party of Chinamen whom they killed several weeks ago — *Shasta Courier*.

THE NEW POSTAGE BILL.—The project for changing the rates of postage under this Government, reported by Mr. Olds a few days since from the House Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, contemplates making it obligatory to pre-pay all letters sent in the mails, and proposes also to fix the rates of postage at three cents per half ounce for all distances up to three thousand miles, and six cents for all greater distances. We learn, on inquiry, that about 900 bushels of dead letters are received at the Post Office Department each quarter, three-fourths of which are of course unpaid. We trust that the pre-payment feature of this bill may become a law. It will vastly reduce the labors of Post Office employes everywhere, while it cannot fail greatly to tend to supply the very large deficiency in the revenue of the Post Office Department, so far resulting from the last reduction of postage rates.—*Washington News*.