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Aldermanic Speculations.

1: A stranger in San Francisco.

MR. EDITOR: A stranger in San Francisco, unacquainted with men, manners and customs here, would suppose that the office of Alderman was the most lucrative as well as the most honorable in the gift of the sovereign people, judging from the avidity with which it is sought by those most in need of the advantages supposed to be conferred by it. But the stranger will think strangely when informed that there is no salary attached to the office, and that those who have hitherto held the coveted post have generally come off with anything but honor. But such is the fact.

Is it not somewhat strange that an office without fees—an office requiring a vast deal of labor, attention and study, and involving responsibilities of a very serious character, should be uniformly sought and too frequently obtained by men who have no identity of interest with the prosperity of the city, and who are not so remarkable for benevolence and generosity as to warrant the idea of their desiring to serve the public gratuitously in a laborious capacity? How is it that men whose income from their ordinary avocations is not sufficient for their support so frequently give up even the appearance of business on assuming the duties of an office that pays no salary or emoluments?—and how is it that those men generally leave these non-paying offices in affluence? Would not the good people consult their individual and corporate interests by looking into the matter?

I perceive that a number of aldermanic candidates of the character touched upon are already out for the next municipal election,—some of whom are only known as street-corner, and dramshop politicians. While our municipal legislation is committed to such hands is it surprising that we have to complain of malversation and corruption? Is not a system susceptible of such abuses radically defective? It certainly is—but the defects cannot be removed at once, and the consequent evils can only be guarded against by creating a public sentiment adverse to the election of men whose only possible motive in going into the Board of Aldermen must, in the nature of things, be the pay of the grossest official corruption. With your permission I will occasionally have something to say directly and to the point on this subject, as the speculative candidates turn up from time to time.

SCREW DRIVER.

FROM YREKA.—The Yreka Herald gives the following in regard to the condition of the Indians in that region:—

The Indians have commenced hostilities against the whites. Their first depredations were perpetrated near and upon the Siskiyou mountain, by the band of the renowned chief Tipsey. They first stole five American horses and one mule, near the mountain. The same day

norses and one mule, near the mountain. The same day they attacked the train of Messrs Gates & Claymer, near the top of the mountain, and killed Mr. Gates. Mr. Claymer made his escape. It is supposed that two more white men were killed at the same time.

Lieut. Bonnacastle, who was in the valley in command of a number of U. S. troops, has been joined by the De Chute Indians, and will proceed at once to the Siskiyou mountain, and by the assistance of the Indians, take the track of Tipsey, where the recent murders were committed. The *Herald* very truly remarks, that this is the only proper plan. Let such a man as Tipsey be hunted down; let him be followed from day to day, until he and all of his warriors are swept from among the living. This is the only way to treat a tribe of savages who regard no treaties, and who murder the whites whenever opportunity offers.

NEW DIGGINGS.—We are informed that extensive placer diggings have been discovered in the vicinity of White Rock; and a remarkable fact, of the equal payment of the dirt from the surface to the bed rock, is also established.

From \$10 to \$20 have thus far been taken, each day, to the hand; and when better facilities are constructed for the conveyance of water from the South Fork Canal, there can be no question of an immense supply of the "yellow boys."—*Mountain Dem.*

CHINESE FIGHT.—The Chinese in and around Jackson are to have a great field-flay shortly, in consequence of some question of Celestial policy. It is said that the Emperor has ordered a tax to be levied on every man and woman of his Empire, living in California, for the support of the war, and this has caused a split between the Hong Kongs and Cantons, who are determined to settle the question by a fight. Blacksmiths are at work preparing the weapons. We hope to hear of a Chinese version of the renowned battle between the Kilkenny cats.—*Cal. Chronicle.*