

Why should a cook, who had *six* dollars in New York, receive *sixty* in San Francisco? Her expenses here are not greater, her clothes cost no more, and if other things are higher, the difficulty falls upon her employer, not upon her. She has her home and maintenance, cost what they may. The truth is, this high scale of prices was arranged a couple of years ago, when servants were scarce, and is now kept up when this necessity has entirely ceased. The report of high wages at the East has brought out hundreds of servants who can find no employ—they cannot afford to be at board—and would be compelled to accept reasonable wages, did not the folly of housekeepers continue to pay, or promise to pay, those which are exorbitant.

As it is, wages have materially decreased, and cooks who could command *sixty* dollars a few months ago are now willing to take *forty*, and often less. The writer of this has been a housekeeper for months, has never been without a first-rate cook and has never given over two-thirds of the usual exorbitant wages. Of course, it is the interest of servants to keep up the high prices, and declare they will not work without high wages. We are perfectly willing to pay the laborer the value of his labor, but not five times what it is worth, and it is only necessary for housekeepers to be firm, and they can regulate this extortionate demand. If any doubt this, let them send to one of our Intelligence Offices, and they will find any quantity of servants eager to procure places at moderate wages, with payment, which is better than mere *promises* of high wages.

We have written this article because we do not believe the exorbitant wages are any benefit to the servants themselves. They forget their place, grow extravagant in dress, are insolent, and get the idea that they have their employers in their power. It is a delusion of which the numerous arrivals by each steamer will soon disabuse them, and it requires but a little decision on the part of their employers to recall them to their proper place. This is, too, a question, as we have said at the beginning of this article, having a moral bearing, and influencing the welfare of our city. Let "help," (a sad misnomer often here!) be procured at a reasonable, just rate, and very many young families would be induced to go to housekeeping, and thus help to diffuse a better and higher domestic tone through our society. We repeat it, housekeepers are not themselves aware how increasing is the supply of servants or they would themselves unite to abate this evil.

HOUSEKEEPER.

INDIAN TROUBLES AGAIN.—We are informed that the Indians over in the Cow Creek country have again assumed a hostile attitude against the whites. Within the last four or five days they have stolen from the ranches about one hundred head of stock, among them some very fine horses and mules. Mr. Long of this place is a loser to the amount of some 10 or 15 of his most valuable mules.

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We also hear that, on Thursday last, the Indians, in large numbers, visited Churn Town, on the east side of the Sacramento river, and ran the whites away from the place. The people of Churn Town had, on the day previous, pursued and killed several of the savages while on their way to the mountains with a lot of stolen property.—*Shasta Courier*.

MAIL LINE TO AUSTRALIA.—We learn that the recent suspension of work at the Pennsylvania coal mines, which was done for the purpose of enabling dealers in New York and the Eastern cities to sell their stocks on hand at exorbitant prices, has caused a brisk business to spring up in the Australian passage line. Although Cameron's clipper ship *Nimrod* has scarcely been in her berth three weeks, about seventy passengers have engaged for the voyage to Melbourne in her. A large number of these men were employed in the Pennsylvania coal mines. They have determined, owing to the causes above stated, to go to Australia with their wives and children.

The *Nimrod* is a clipper bark of eight hundred tons burthen, and has made one voyage to Australia. She sailed from New York in April, 1853. She will leave on her second voyage on the 28th instant. She will carry out a large quantity of pine timber for house building.

There are also among the passengers a number of copper miners from Lake Superior, and a sprinkling of men of different vocations from Canada, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

The *Nimrod* is the nineteenth vessel in Cameron's Pioneer Line of monthly packets. She carries the United States Mail. The price of passage is now quoted at two hundred dollars in the first cabin, and one hundred and fifty in the second cabin.—*New York Evening Post*.

The Mammoth Cave, of Kentucky, is the property of the family of Col. Grogan, formerly of Louisville. He purchased it about twenty years ago, (in consequence of so many questions having been put to him in regard to it while he was in Europe,) for the sum of one hundred thousand dollars. His disposal of it when he died is thus referred to in a Western paper :

It will be tied up in such a way that it must