

## GREAT EXCITEMENT IN OLD SAN DIEGO

*Summary Justice!—Hewitt driven from the Court!*

On Friday last, the notorious John Hewitt, (a report of whose examination for a felonious charge appeared in our last issue,) laid an information before the District Attorney, accusing Wm. Evans of having assisted in the escape of Jones and himself from the county jail, and of being implicated with Jones in stealing the piece of silk for which that individual was committed. Evans, who has always borne an excellent character for honesty, industry and sobriety, was accordingly arrested, and submitted to a most thorough and searching examination, before Justice Franklin, but it being evident from Hewitt's confused and contradictory statements, and the evidence of others, that the charge was an entire fabrication, he was honorably discharged. A large crowd had assembled around the Court room, and on the facts becoming known, the most intense indignation was manifested towards Hewitt. On leaving the court, he was seized by the crowd and borne towards the centre of the plaza, uttering the most dreadful cries, as the intention of the citizens to punish him became evident. At this stage of the proceedings Justice Franklin promptly interfered, commanding the peace, and for the moment the popular tumult was quieted. But on the Justice retiring, the indignant feeling of the people again prevailed—the crowd again collected. Hewitt was seized—his clothes torn entirely from his body, and in spite

peace, and for the moment the popular tumult was quieted. But on the Justice retiring, the indignant feeling of the people again prevailed—the crowd again collected. Hewitt was seized—his clothes torn entirely from his body, and in spite of the endeavors of Mr. Bandini, who interfered in his behalf, a very severe beating was administered to him. He at last escaped, and ran off toward New Town in a state of perfect nudity, screaming murder, and pursued by the whole crowd, which had increased to nearly a hundred, but in consequence of the darkness of the evening, he managed to elude them. A cry was now raised to "drive off his brother," and the people returning, commenced an active search for that person, but, fearing that this course might be taken, he had already left the village. Our town is thus relieved of the presence of two dangerous and notorious scoundrels, and though by no means advocates of Lynch law generally, we cannot regret that in this instance such prompt and energetic action was adopted. Neither life or property can be considered safe while such scamps are suffered to infest a community, and as we have no place of security to be used as a jail in this county, the course of our citizens in this matter was not only excusable, but to our way of thinking, worthy of commendation. Hewitt will never return to this village, and we hope the sudden manner in which he was compelled to leave, will prove a solemn warning to any other worthless "beach combers" who may think of making San Diego their place of residence.

