

THE MONTANA POST

Saturday, July 28, 1866.

MINERAL LANDS.

We deem it a matter sufficiently interesting to miners and to all others interested in mineral lands, to invite their careful attention to a summary of the remarks of Senator Stewart, of Nevada, in debate in the United States Senate, on the 15th of June last, on the subject of the "Bill to regulate the occupation of Mineral Lands," reported by Senator Conness, of California, from the Committee on Mines and Mining, as a substitute for the bill known as Sherman's bill.

The bill referred to, introduced by Senator Conness, as we understand, has been passed, and we shall publish it complete as soon as the mail brings us a correct copy, and call the attention of our readers to the policy and provisions of the act.

The substitute having been read, Stewart, of Nevada, moved to add the following section, which was adopted: "That, as a further condition of sale, in the absence of the necessary legislation by Congress, the local Legislature of any State or Territory may provide rules for working the mines, involving drains or any other kind of means necessary to their development; and these conditions will be fully expressed in the patent."

Stewart explained the laws and customs of miners, which he said were founded in justice and challenged the admiration of all who investigated them, and a series of nice and judicious decisions have moulded these regulations into a comprehensive system of common law, embracing not only mining law, but also regulating the use of water for mining purposes. This system has spread over all the mineral States and Territories, and is well understood by a million of men. A miner's law is a part of his nature. He made it, and he loves, trusts and obeys it. He has given the honest toil of his life to discover wealth which, when found, is protected by no higher law than that enacted by himself, under the implied sanction of a just and generous Government. Senators who have not given this subject special attention, can hardly realize the wonderful results of this system of free mining. It would be a national calamity to adopt any system that would close that vast region to the prospector; but the importance of legislation which shall give title, so important for permanent prosperity, is daily increased by the agitation of the subject, by the introduction of bills looking to what the miners regard as a general system of confiscation, and by the absolute necessity of some system of guaranteeing to capitalists indemnity for their investments. To extend to the miner the pre-emption applicable to agricultural districts, is absurd and impossible. Nature does not deposit the precious metals in regular forms, discriminating between the horizontal and perpendicular forms of veins.

It is not to be expected that the land in advance of discovery, for this would never find the mine. It is not to be expected, therefore, prepared a bill which may be improved by experience, but your Committee would apprehend evil consequences from any material change in the plan at this time. The bill continuing the system of free mining, holds mineral lands open to exploration and occupation, subject to legislation by Congress and local regulations. It recognizes the obligations of the Government to respect private rights, which have grown up under its tacit consent and approval. It proposes to allow miners who have occupied, or may hereby occupy and improve mines in good faith, and according to the local rules, to purchase, at the rate of five dollars per acre, and receive a patent therefor, in such form as shall grant the mine, with its deposits to any depth, with such reasonable amount of surface as the miners shall determine, by local laws, to be necessary for working the same. It also provides, in case of dispute as to the right of possession, for the determination of that question in the local courts, where mining laws are understood and regularly administered. It makes the public surveys conform to nature, and not nature to the survey. It requires the payment of three per cent. of the net proceeds into the treasury until the debt shall have been paid, which is to be in lieu of the stamp tax now levied. It furnishes means to actual settlers of acquiring titles to their homesteads, by segregating agricultural land from mineral lands. It confirms the rights to the use of water and the right of way for ditches as established by local law and the decisions of the courts. In short, it proposes no new system, but sanctions, regulates and confirms a system to which the people are devotedly attached, and removes the doubt and uncertainty which recently have depressed and retarded the growth and prosperity of our mining communities. In my opinion this bill will furnish homes to thousands of miners, will furnish titles and increase the production of the precious metals. The proposed tax is not large, and will not be oppressive, but is all the subject will bear, and is just three per cent. more than the farmer pays on the net proceeds of his farm. But those who have no net profit have no money with which to pay, and the miners never refuse to pay as long as they have money.

ARRIVAL OF JOHNS.—The Boise Statesman says the Celestials from Nevada and California run the gauntlet of the "poor red man," (that's what Lyon calls them,) and arrive in swarms. About one hundred came in on the different routes yesterday and on the day before, and have mostly gone to Boise county. We noticed several parties with their own wagons and teams of four horses each in the street. Evidence of John's versatility he managed the reins very much like a teamster.

The military force of Utah is reduced now to single regiment, and the highest officer in command is a major of regulars. About two-thirds of the regiment are at Salt Lake City, the rest at Fort Bridger. A good chance this number offers for Brigham Young to fulfill his frequent threat, and "wipe out" the United States and the Gentiles in his kingdom.

Indian Fight in Idaho—The Owyhee Volunteers Surrounded and Likely to be Captured.

The Owyhee stage yesterday brought news of another Indian fight, and of the probable loss of thirty-six volunteers who left Silver City immediately after the late raid upon Flint District. Night before last a messenger came into Ruby City, dispatched from Camp Lyon by Captain Hinton, with the intelligence that Captain Jennings with thirty-five men were engaged and surrounded on Boulder Creek, about thirty-five miles from Oro, by a large force of Indians, supposed to number 250 or more. The party engaged the Indians on the 2nd inst., and had been fighting about twenty-four hours, when Captain Jennings dispatched two men to Ruby for assistance. Before the messenger left, which was on the 3d inst., the Indians received supplies from the squaws with animals packed with provisions and camp equipment. The engagement first took place on a high, flat piece of ground, but our men fell back to where they could get water, and began to throw up breastworks of dirt as best they could. They had lost two killed and several wounded. They were getting short of ammunition and did not expect to be able to hold out more than forty-eight hours more, if they could even that length of time.

The citizens of Ruby sent to Major Marshall at Fort Boise for arms, but he had not the arms to send. He starts himself this morning, leaving orders for Col. Coppinger to follow to-day and cross Snake river to-night, if possible. Yesterday evening the citizens of Boise City gathered what arms they could and sent them over on the stage at 4 o'clock this morning. Governor Ballard, in company with Major Alvord, started at dark last night for Ruby, with the intelligence of what assistance is coming to their relief, and to help organize the volunteers that are mustering there.

Since the above was written, we learn from Major Marshall that Capt. Hinton and White left, one from Camp Lyon and the other from Flint, at an early hour yesterday morning, and would reach the besieged volunteers before dark last night, with men enough to afford them relief.

From the Platte—Indian Battle on the Little Blue.

The Fort Kearney Herald of the 6th inst. gives the following news: At Liberty Farm, about fifty miles east of Kearney, twenty Indians, supposed to have been Sioux, attacked four men who were working in the field day before yesterday, with their guns and ammunition at a convenient distance. The whites retreated into the Liberty Farm ranch, making a running fight. The Indians pursued them nearly to the ranch, and then fell back. The Atchison stage yesterday reports none of the whites injured. Two of the Indians were thought to have been severely wounded. General Rufus Ingalls passed through Kearney yesterday on the Atchison stage en route to California, on an inspecting tour. He reports a good deal of excitement on the Little Blue.

The Omaha Scouts, an independent Indian company, made up from the Winnebago tribe, passed Kearney on Friday last. They were accompanied by E. R. Nash, who says the Winnebagoes are equally as good soldiers as the white men. They are just from Powder river valley, Dakota, where they have been stationed for nearly a year, engaged in keeping the hostile tribes away from the new roads that have been opened through that country. They are on their way to Dakota county, Nebraska, to be mustered out of service. The following trains have organized and passed Kearney: July 3.—Conductor C. E. Hill, 25 wagons, 37 men, 37 revolvers, 17 guns, bound for Denver and Montana. July 5.—Conductor J. Bradford, 51 wagons, 49 men, 34 revolvers, 25 guns, bound for Salt Lake and Virginia City, Nevada. Conductor M. Smith, 28 wagons, 37 men, 37 revolvers, 37 guns, bound for Salt Lake, Virginia City and Idaho.

INDIAN DISTURBANCES IN HUMBOLDT.

The subjoined is a copy of a dispatch sent to Gen. Halleck: Carson City, Nevada, July 7, 1866—10 o'clock, a. m. General H. W. Halleck, commanding the Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, California: I received the following yesterday evening from E. F. Dunne, District Judge of Humboldt county. It is reliable: [Official.] Star City, July 6th, 1866. To H. G. Blasdel, Governor of Nevada: Another Indian outbreak in Paradise Valley, burning stations, hay, grain, etc. Must the settlers abandon their growing crops, or can they get protection until after harvest? Please answer. No soldiers here. All removed nearer Idaho. (Signed) E. F. DUNNE.

There is abundant evidence that those settlers must have immediate protection or lose their crops and labor of this season, and probably their lives. Governor Blasdel is in San Francisco, still sick. We are not in a condition to act. What will you do? J. S. CROSMAN, Act'g-Governor of Nevada.

THE INDIAN SITUATION.—Since our last issue, says the Boise News, there is no further news from the volunteers, except that the citizen volunteers numbered two hundred who went to the relief of Capt. Jennings. They would probably be under the command of Hill Beachey. On Sunday, supplies to the value of \$3,000, were also sent out under an escort of about forty additional men. Governor Ballard and Major Alvord returned on Wednesday, and report considerable excitement yet at Ruby and Silver. A considerable number of women and children have taken up lodgings in the New York and Owyhee Mill for more perfect security.

THE TEST OATH AT THE SOUTH.—The Secretary of the Treasury is sending notices to the officers in the South who have been unable or unwilling to take the test oath, that they will be required immediately to vacate their several offices. Mr. McCulloch has determined to enforce the law to the letter.

Pacific Coast News.

THE SARANAC.—This U. S. War vessel, Scott, Commander, arrived in our port on Thursday. On Friday afternoon many of our citizens availed themselves of an invitation to pay her a visit, and were shown around by her gentlemanly officers. She will probably remain here until Monday next.

The last steamer from Peru brought 180 Spaniards who had been compelled to leave the country under a decree of the Government. The Spanish yoke is not relished by the Peruvians, especially since that humane (?) bombardment of Valparaiso.

CONFIRMATIONS.—Among the confirmations of appointments be the Senate, the following for this Territory: S. D. Howe, Assessor of Internal Revenue, at Olympia; Joseph Cushman, Receiver of Public moneys at Olympia; S. W. Brown, Receiver, and J. N. Fletcher, Register of the Land Office at Vancouver.

MURDER AT SEATTLE.—On Sunday evening last some sailors from the U. S. War Steamer Saranac, then lying at Seattle, got into a melee in that place, with some parties and one of the seamen was killed by being beaten with a club. His name was Manuel Gode, a native of Peru, thirty-two years of age. Liquor was the cause of the difficulty. An inquest was held over his body and the Coroner's Jury returned that James McKay was the murderer who was arrested. An examination was had and evidence produced that caused the Judge to order him committed on the charge of murder to await action of the Grand Jury. Application was made to admit the prisoner to bail, and refused, and in custody of the sheriff he was taken on board the Saranac and brought to Fort Steilacoom and confined.

ANOTHER NEW STEAMER.—The California and Mexico S. S. Co., have built a new steamship and put her on the line between San Francisco and Portland. She is called the Oriflamme, and is said to be a handsome middle and elegant in her appointments. A little healthy opposition such as the Montana has given that Company has undoubtedly had something to do with prompting them to substitute something else in the place of the old float toms that have for years monopolized the trade between two places.

SUICIDE.—By telegraph from San Francisco, it is announced that Mr. O. M. Perkins, the San Francisco member of the firm of O. F. Gerrish & Co., of Port Townsend, doing business at 308, Battery street, committed suicide at his residence, on Chestnut street on Monday morning, the 24th inst. He shot himself through the head with a pistol. Mr. Perkins was a native of Massachusetts, and was highly respected by a large circle of acquaintances. Nothing un- had been noticed in his actions by business associates. On Monday morning he arose as usual and worked in the garden until breakfast. While eating he made desponding remarks about business matters, and after concluding the meal walked out to the hennery, and holding a pistol near the top of his head, fired it, the ball passing entirely through, killing him instantly.

California Dispatches.

San Francisco, July 12th. The Western Union Company a flag-ship Nightingale sailed yesterday for the Russian possessions, carrying provisions and an assorted cargo for the Collins Telegraph expedition.

After a suspension of two or three months the cotton mills at Clinton, across the bay, have resumed work. Contracts have been made for securing cotton from Mexico until our own crop comes into market. Eastern cotton will also be used at the mill, an invoice now being on the way here by steamer from New York.

Private telegrams, dated New York yesterday, represent the market for standard dry goods as very firm. The dead body found hung to the limb of a tree at Lone Montana has been identified as that of Gustaf Anderson, a native of Sweden, aged about fifty years.

The case of Charles P. and John Duane, indicted for the murder of William G. Ross was called before Judge Pratt this morning and continued until next Tuesday, when they will be required to plead.

- A call has been issued from Washington dated June 25th, announcing that a National Union Convention of at least two delegates from each Congressional district of all the States—two from each Territory, two from the District of Columbia, and four delegates at large from each will be held in the city of Philadelphia on the 14th of August next. Such delegates will be chosen by the Governor of the several States who sustain the Administration. Delegates are asked to agree: 1st. The Union is perpetual and indissoluble. 2d. Equality of States and right to representation are solemnly guaranteed. 3d. No right of secession or exclusion. 4th. Slavery is abolished forever. 5th. Each State has to prescribe qualifications for its own elector. 6th. The maintenance of the right of each State to manage its domestic concerns inviolate.

This call is signed by A. W. Randall, President; J. R. Doolittle, O. H. Brown, Edgar Cowan, Chas. Knapp, Saml Fowler.

RUMOR.—There has been a report current for several days, says the Boise Statesman, that Fort Boise is to be abandoned by the military authority of this department. If true it is to be regretted. We look upon the measure as one of doubtful expediency at the present time. Fort Boise has served a good purpose as a point from which small expeditions could be sent to any exposed settlement at the shortest notice, and is the cheapest and most eligible point in the Territory at which troops and animals can be subsisted when not actually engaged in the field. We are satisfied that whatever intention, if any there may be, to take this step will result in a vast amount of expense to the Government, without any corresponding advantage.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Congressional.

Washington, July 16th. HOUSE.—The President to-day sent in the veto of the Freedmen's Bureau bill, recapitulating previous objections and stating that the present Bureau would any way continue until after next session. Mr. Elliott moved to postpone the question until to-morrow. Mr. LeBlond moved to take it now. House then voted—ayes, 103; nays, 33; and passed the bill over the veto.

Chicago, July 17th. Higby, in the House, introduced a bill to legalize the occupation of the public mineral lands, and to extend the right of pre-emption. Read twice and referred to Committee on Mines and Mining.

Washington, July 17th. The House debated and acted upon the Rosseau affair. The resolution to expell Rosseau was rejected—ayes 72, nays 49—and not being two-thirds, it was not adopted. The resolution to censure Grinnell was rejected without division. The House then adopted the resolution to reprimand Rosseau, by ayes 89, nays 30. Rosseau was in his seat during the proceedings.

Chicago, July 17th. The World's special says, within three hours after the receipt of the President's veto message in the House, the Freedmen's Bureau bill had triumphantly passed both Houses of Congress, and was proclaimed by Mr. Foster as a law of the land. The vote in the House was 103 to 33, and in the Senate 30 against 12.

The Senate was occupied yesterday with the Northern Pacific Railroad bill, upon which no action was reached. The Tennessee Legislature is no nearer a quorum, and Brownlow is swearing mad.

Senator Doolittle has written a letter to Gen. Dix, asking his endorsement of the Philadelphia Convention. The General replied in a short way, in which he says, the principles set down in the call met his full approbation, and that he will do all in his power to make the convention a success.

Freeman (Clark, Comptroller of the currency, has resigned; to take effect next week.

Washington, July 17th. The following dispatch was received to-day from Gen. Thomas:

Nashville, Tenn., July 14th. Lieut.-Gen. Grant, Washington: Some of the members of the House of Representatives, in General Assembly, conduct themselves in a very refractory manner, absenting themselves to prevent a quorum, thus obstructing business. The Governor cannot manage them with the means at his disposal, and has applied to me for military assistance. Shall I furnish it? (Signed) GEO. H. THOMAS, Maj.-Gen Com'd'g.

The following answer was immediately given: Washington, July 17th.

Gen. Grant will instruct Gen. Thomas that the facts stated in his telegram do not warrant the interference of the military authorities. The administration of peace at Nashville belongs properly to the State authorities, and the duty of the United States forces is not to interfere in any way in controversies between the political authorities of the State, and Gen. Thomas will strictly abstain from any interference between them. (Signed) E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

New York, July 17th. The Post's money article says gold is strong to-day, in anticipation that the next news from Europe will be less favorable for a restoration of peace. The stock market is irregular. Governments steady, without much activity.

Foreign News.

New York, July 16th. The foreign news to the 6th is of the highest importance. The Prussians gained a decided victory in Bohemia, both entire grand armies being engaged. Austria offers to cede Venetia to Napoleon, and the latter proposes an armistice. The general belief in peace has produced an effect on consols, closing on the 6th at 87 1/2 for consols, 520's 67 1/2 Cotton 3d. higher.

The steamer America, from Southampton, has arrived. Consols closed on the 3d at 86 1/2; 520's, 67 1/2. Cotton quiet and unchanged; flour is lower; wheat dull and 3d. lower; corn still declining and 6d. lower.

The Paris Bourse on the 3d remained firm. Rentes, 63 1/2, being 30c higher than yesterday. The war news is unimportant.

The Prussians in Bohemia were making victorious progress and had taken Gitchin by storm, and the junction of the Prussian army under the Crown Prince and that under the Prince Charles had been completely effected.

The King of Prussia had arrived at Gitchin. The quarters of Prince Charles had been removed beyond Gitchin. A Gitchin telegram of the 2d, says that 100,000 Austrian prisoners have been taken by Prussia since the 26th, and 30,000 Austrians killed and wounded.

The Austrian army had retired to a strong position between Josephstadt and Koenigsgratz. The fighting in the past three days had extended over a greater line than on the 27th, and the Prussians, though suffering heavily, are in excellent spirits. The Austrian corps under Gen. Godlentz was completely broken up. Besides innumerable prisoners, 20 guns, 5 colors and two standards belonging to the corps of Gen. Godlentz fell into the hands of the Prussian troops.

The London Times' city article of Tuesday evening says: The news of the rapid progress of the Prussian army has created an impression on Exchange as to the possibility of a negotiation for peace. The Times of the 4th says: Horrible as the carnage has been, it must be looked on as a mere prelude to the pitched battle now unavoidable, in which a quarter of a million of men will probably be engaged on either side.

Further Point, July 15.

The steamer Nova Scotia brings dates via Londonderry of the 6th. A great battle took place on the 3d, near Sudowa, resulting in the Prussians obtaining a great and complete victory. The battle lasted 12 hours. The Austrians were commanded by General Benedek, and the Prussians by the king in person.

The Prussians met the Austrians between Horwitz and Koenigsgratz. Until 10 a. m., the battle was favorable to the Austrians, but after that hour the advantage was with the Prussians. At 2 p. m., after an obstinate defence, the Prussians carried by storm the strong position of the Austrians: after which the Austrians were quickly driven out of the other positions and by 7 p. m. were in full retreat to Koenigsgratz, pursued by the Prussian cavalry. The Austrians were in complete rout. The road was strewn with baggage which they threw away.

The killed and wounded, on both sides, was great, but owing to the extent of the battle, had not yet been ascertained. The Prussians claim to have captured up to the evening of the 4th, 14,000 wounded prisoners, 16 cannon and several flags. Three Austrian Arch Dukes are reported wounded. Litchenslun and Prince Mndiscara were prisoners.

The Austrian Field Marshal Von Goltz, arrived at the Prussian Headquarters at Horwitz, on the eve of the 4th, with a flag of truce. The Paris Moniteur of the 5th makes the following announcement: An important event has just occurred. After having maintained the honor of his army in Italy, the Emperor of Austria, concurring in the ideas expressed in Emperor Napoleon's letter of June 11th, to his Minister of Foreign Affairs, cedes Venetia to France, and accepts his mediation for the conclusion of peace.

The Emperor hastened to respond to the summons and immediately communicated with the Kings of Prussia and Italy in order to obtain an armistice. The London Times, of the 5th, says, the suddenness and magnitude of the Austrian calamity is too overpowering for any man to speculate on the possible consequence on the destinies of the Austrian Empire.

The Daily News shows that the Prussians not only gained a battle but strategic advantages of the highest importance. They have concentrated eight corps of their army and can pounce down on the enemy with overwhelming force, and have cut off communication between the Austrian and Federal army in the west.

The Prussian victories had a decided effect on financial and commercial affairs. There was a general improvement in consols and other securities at the London Stock Exchange. There was great buoyancy in Liverpool cotton market, but a depression in breadstuffs.

On Paris Bourse rentes advanced 1/2 and Italian securities 4 per cent. Garibaldi on the 3d attacked the Austrians at Montezucel. The Austrians made a strong resistance. The volunteers, finally fell back in good order. Garibaldi was slightly wounded in the thigh.

The Prussian and Italian reply to the proposed armistice has not transpired, but peace is regarded as virtually concluded. Consols closed at 78 1/2 and 78 3/4 for money. The bullion in the banks decreased £165,000. Sales of cotton 200,000 bales, closing firm and advancing.

New York, July 17th. The steamer Percire, from Havre, July 5th, via Brest the 7th, has arrived. Prussia and Italy had refused an armistice. The Italians had crossed the Po. The Austrians have entirely evacuated Lombardy and returned across the Mincio.

The Florence journals declare that if the Austrian troops evacuate Venetia to march against the Prussians, the Italian army will pursue them closely until a junction is effected between the Italian and Prussian armies. They believe in the immediate resumption of the campaign, which will be continued till the Austrian monarchy is dismembered.

The La Press of the 7th says the cessation of Venetia to France is complete and definite, and without any other condition on the part of Austria except to withdraw all arms, guns and munitions of war found in fortified places within forty-eight hours.

The whole of Venetia will be French territory, and it will depend upon the good will of France to keep or part with it. The Italian Government will therefore have to cease every act of hostility against Venetia, it being French territory.

The French Commissioner is going at once to Venice to assume its government in name of the Empire. Orders have been issued to the French squadron in the Mediterranean, to immediately proceed to Venice and hoist the French flag, instead of the Austrian, upon all posts on the Venetia coast.

The La Press says, furthermore, that King Victor Emanuel has not at once acceded to the armistice, proposed through France. He alleges as his reason the desire to consult his ally, the King of Prussia.

The Augsburg Gazette says, Benedek has demanded thirty thousand reinforcements. The same paper has a report that the Arch Duke Albert has been appointed successor to Benedek. The fortifications of Vienna were being increased, and five hundred guns are now in position.

The Prussian army, debouching from electoral Hesse, has entered Bavaria. A fight occurred at Meiningen on the 4th, between the Bavarian corps and the Prussian army, under Earl Fulkenstein. No particulars. An Eisenach dispatch of the 5th says: Some detachments of Bavarian troops have been driven from Henfield. A corps of the Bavarian army has entered Austrian Tyrol, moving towards Calais. Garibaldi's headquarters are at Laneto. He has about 50,000 men under his command. They are not completely equipped; but are armed and have plenty of ammunition. Owing to the appearance of Garibaldi, the war is likely to assume a peculiar character. Some Tyrolean priests have roused up a portion of the peasants by representing the Italians as banditti and Garibaldi as anti-Christ.

Vienna, July 5th.

Benedek addressed the following despatch to the Emperor yesterday at 5 a. m.: After a brilliant contest of five hours' duration before Koenigsgratz, with our center at Lippa, the enemy, favored by rain, succeeded in establishing himself at Chlum. Our lines being broken, we were compelled to recede, and a retreat was effected. Losses not known, but they are considerable.

Berlin, July 5th. The victory of Sudowa produces great enthusiasm. The army under the Prince Royal, although distant from the field of battle, succeeded by great effort in arriving in time to direct an attack against the right of the Austrians, which act decided the victory. The King decorated the Prince on the field of battle with an order of military merit.

California News.

The California horse George M. Patchen was matched against the well known "Commodore Vanderbilt," at the Fashion course, Long Island, on the 23d ult. The trot was for \$1,500, best three straight heats without making a single skip or break in the whole race.

The new incorporation law of California provides that no assessment shall exceed five per cent of the capital stock of the company; and further, and no new assessment shall be levied until all prior ones have been collected, or all legal means exhausted for their collection.

The Sonoma Democrat says, a citizen of Washoe, recently, when called upon by Uncle Sam's Internal Revenue Assessor, to account for his income, swore that everything he had in the world was on his back. The fellow had strapped his money on his back in order to escape taxation.

THE ARMY WORM.—The Mendocino Herald of June 15th says: We regret to learn that the army worm has invaded Potter Valley, where it is engaged in destroying the entire vegetable crop. It stops not at chess, neither wheat or barley or any other cereals. We hear of the pest in Redwood Valley, but nowhere else in the country. A year ago, it sent out some foragers in this valley, but inflicted little harm. In the northern part of Nevada county we learn that the farmers have been troubled by these worms. In some cases whole fields of corn have been cut down.

The late legislature of California has provided, that hereafter the names of persons may be changed by a special proceeding in the County Court; 2. That the applicant shall file a petition giving his present name, the proposed name, the reason for the change, and his place of birth and residence; the name and birthplace of his father, if living, and if not then of his near relatives; 3. That such petition shall be published in a newspaper; 4. That relatives may remonstrate and that the Court may dismiss the petition; or make an order changing the name; 5. That petitioner besides paying the costs, shall pay twenty dollars to the school fund; 6. That the Clerk shall certify a copy of the order to the Secretary of State, who shall keep a register of all changes in names.

SODIUM-AMALGAM.—The other day we said that parties were trying this article with a view of determining its worth. We now have results. Mr. John P. Bruce is running his old twelve-stamp mill, two batteries, six stamps in each. Four days last week he used the mercury in the other. He got one ounce and nineteen dwts. more gold in the former than in the latter. Mr. Emery also tried some of it in the Naragansett Mill just before it shut down. In one section of twenty heavy stamps he used the sodium-amalgam for two batteries and the common mercury for the other two during a run of three days, obtaining from the former five ounces of amalgam more than the latter, which retored \$650 an ounce the 32 1/2 in all. At the same rate, the use of it in the forty stamps of the Naragansett Mill forty a week would increase the yield by \$260. Probably this result would be even better with more experience. Two or three other mills have tried it, getting no result, which may have been due to the character of the ores or to the inexperience of the operators. Mr. Bruce is the accredited agent for the company that manufactures the sodium amalgam in New York and brought out some to test it. He thinks it requires about an ounce to a stamp per week, applied in very small quantities every half hour. Its action is mostly magnetic, and it is possible that galvanizing copper plates would answer the same purpose. It purifies the mercury and keeps it from fouling while adding greatly to its affinity for gold. Enough has been proven by experiments in California and elsewhere to encourage persistence in its use until its value is fully demonstrated.—Mining Journal.

HOMICIDE NEAR CAMP McDERMIT.—An ambulance with guard drove to town Monday, bringing a prisoner sent down by Lieut. Moulton, commanding at Camp McDermot. The circumstances, as nearly as could be learned, were about as follows: Several teams and a number of pack mules, all from Honey Lake, Cal., were on their way to Silver City, Idaho. A man named Hisborn, or Wisburn, owned a team and pack train; A. G. Bradley was assisting him to get out with a lot of barley. On the 28th, when near Camp McDermot, they quarreled, drew pistols; but were separated. The quarrel struck and kicked Bradley, who, exasperated, drew a knife and stuck it through Hisborn's heart. Those who witnessed the quarrel, and the termination of it, agree in saying that Bradley acted throughout on the defensive—manifesting a wish to avoid trouble; and killed Hisborn under such provocation as few men would have borne with. Dr. Snow and Lieut. Moulton made an examination of the body in presence of witnesses, and it was buried near the post on the 29th of June. The owners of the other teams drove on. Bradley as soon as he had stabbed Hisborn, ran to the post and surrendered himself—making a statement in substance as above.—Humboldt Register, July 7th.