NEWS OF THE WEST.

Tramps are Said to Fairly Overrun Some Portions of California.

HACKMEN AND MERCHANTS' WAR.

Dreadful Scenes in the Southern Part of the Territory.—Schools Closed on Account of Diphtheria.

It is rumored that the Southern Pacific has decided to use automatic cars as the sidetracks to the broad gauge cars on Seventh street, San Francisco, for the purpose of prevent people from jumping on and off at stations at which trains do not stop.

Night is said to be the pinching time, as many of the people of that place are owners of large flocks of sheep and live immediate when shearing of sheep and we have also with an abundance of accumulated debts. The insurance of Napa alone has over $20,000 against assessments, says an exchange.

The trustees of San Leandro, Cal., have closed the public schools of this town because of the prevalence of diphtheria. The schools will remain closed for a month. There are supposed to be about a dozen cases of the disease in the town. The town is considering the necessity of voting sewer bonds.

Says the San Francisco Chronicle: Neal Fitzgerald of the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe will go some into effect to the Missouri river which will consist of a round-trip rate of $60 in Chicago, limited in time to thirty days and at the river one-way day's work. Notice to this effect has been served by the general passenger agents of all the transcontinental lines.

John Shaw, a native of Denmark, about 30 years old, was drowned in the slough at the upper end of Merritt's Island, Cal., shortly after midnight Sunday. He was on the steamer which is building a levee around the island, and was with others coming down the slough in a boat to work on his shift. They came down the wrong side of the slough and found themselves under the snag as it was coming down. Shaw jumped out of the boat to save himself. He came up twice, but sank again, and when he was brought to the surface with a pike-pole life was extinct, although they tried hard to resuscitate him.

James O'Donnell, alias Scott, burglar, would-be jail-breaker and ex-convict, has been sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary at Sacramento. O'Donnell robbed a house some months ago, and when detected by the police led them a merry chase for several squares. He has served several terms in the penitentiary, and is considered one of the most desperate young felons in the state. The manner in which he planned and led in the almost successful attempt to break out of the county jail entitles him to this reputation.

Frank Sotelle, a Mexican; Tom Murongo, Marcos, general of the Pinole Indians, and Frank Wiss, a white man, and an ex-convict from San Diego county, engaged in a bloody conflict a few miles east of San Bernardino, Saturday night, while under the influence of liquor. Tom Murongo cut the general with a long knife, which entered between the lower ribs on the left side, ranging upward, and cut the diaphragm, letting the left lung down. The wounds extend across the stomach about five inches, letting the bowels protrude. As to the wounded men, the physicians say his case is hopeless. Murongo and Wiss have escaped. The others are in jail.

Probably never before in the history of California were there as many tramps afloat as at the present time, says the San Francisco Chronicle. They are divided into two classes, the old-timers, who have tramped across the continent a dozen times, and who have not done an honest day's work since the panic of '72, and the new-leaguers, who made their advent into the ranks for the first time this year. This latter class are still asking to work if they get a chance, for as yet they have not been imbued with the ideas of the old-timers, that to work is an everlasting disgrace. The southern mines have closed down and thrown our men out of work; half of these are on the tramp now. They are also coming into California from Colorado at the rate of thirty a day.

Samuel Natcher, who has just returned from the south, says the Rich-Gold Advocate, reports that tremendous hail became very severe down there. The cargo of flour which he took down would have sold off the hot cakes, but money was as scarce as flour, and it not, indeed, become quite a struggle for the people to feed bread till the new grain came in. J. J. Stewart says the same paper, has just returned from a trip to Copperas, and says he reports the country as being fairly looking and unlovely. Coyotes seem to predominate and they ring both the evening and the morning curfew. Times are hard, if possible, in that country than in this, since most of the people depend upon the sale of cattle and sheep for a livelihood, and just now there is no sale of stock.

The war between the hackmen and merchants in the center of San Jose, Cal., has practically ended in favor of the latter. The hackmen have complained that the hacks standing in front of their stores have been a great deterrent to their business, so daily on Santa Clara street, where the entire frontage is occupied by these vehicles and it is impossible for persons in carriages to drive up to the sidewalk to transact business. The hackmen objected to removing, on the ground that they could not make expenses where they had stands in the center of the city. At a meeting of the city council the ordinance committee was instructed to draw up an ordinance forbidding all vehicles used for hire to stand on Santa Clara street, between Third and Market, and First street, between St. John and San Fernando, or in front of a place in any other part of the city where a notice forbidding them so to do was posted.

At Wallace Vineyard, five miles north of Fresno, Cal., the body of John Pagelin, aged thirty-five, the foreman, was found dead, hanging in a hay shed. He was covered with long iron bolt in his back, and an examination showed that he had tied two to pitchforks, and then had fastened the bolt fastened by pulling his throat. A gash had been cut in each side and both wrists had been cut. This failing to produce death, he procured a rope of the hay and hanged himself. The trail of blood showed that he had scrambled over the pitchforks before finding a rope. It is believed that he had become temporarily insane on account of losing all the hay by the failure of the Pacific Bank in San Francisco. He had only $1,000 in the bank but it was his savings of years and his credit was broken. Nothing but poverty was staring him. He was 35 years old. This was the third in Fresno county and it was found on his dead body.

Members of the annual round-up party which started from the San Bernardino ranch on the Mojave last two week, report having encountered two bands of Apaches in the Armenia valley, fifteen miles north of Cuba. One band was composed of fourteen bucks and the other six. They were well armed and mounted. The two parties were seen on different days. The larger band was encountered at the mouth of a canyon. The leader evidently expecting an attack, rode rapidly up the canyon. The round-up party, composed of thirty-five cattlemen, but they were better armed and formed a stampede if they followed the Indians. Had they been long with the stampede, they would have encountered a heavy fire of the rancheros. The troops, which have been camped in that vicinity, have been withdrawn, and the renegades from San Carlos are roaming at will undisturbed. Unless troops are sent to Mexico and drive these Indians back on the reservation a raid equaling that of Geronimo's several years ago is predicted by the frontiersmen of this section. A letter from the mining district to the San Francisco Chronicle, dated Tombstone, Ariz., August 25, says: Nothing of importance has occurred in the Apache country since my last letter. The Indians are still on the reservation, and the troops are still in the field. The Apaches are very quiet and peaceable, and are not disposed to leave the reservation. The Indians are very quiet and peaceable, and are not disposed to leave the reservation. The troops are still in the field, and