

Nov. 29.—In the case of James Galbraith to the tract called "Bolsa de Tomales," five square leagues in Marin county, in the U. S. District Court a decree of confirmation was entered. In this case, the grant was made in June, 1846, after the declaration of war between the United States and Mexico, which took place on May 19th, 1846. There is consequently an important question decided by the confirmation; that is, that a grant made after the declaration of war may still be valid.

During the last week in November, District-Attorney Osborne commenced suits against some seven or eight hundred parties for non payment of State licenses. In such cases the amount of license is doubled when sued for, besides which \$20 is added for Court and lawyer's fees, so that if the original license was \$15, when collected by suit the party would be compelled to pay \$50.

DECEMBER 4.—A case that excited great interest in the community came on for trial in the Court of Sessions. The Grand Jury had found a true bill against the publishers of the *Morning Call* newspaper, for publishing an editorial charging criminality on the part of Major J. R. Snyder, Treasurer of the U. S. Branch Mint in this city. The article was published on the 15th of last September, and pronounced a libel, inasmuch as it charged Major Snyder with having proved faithless in his position; with having recommended Szabo as successor of Haraszthy; with conniving at the frauds of the late Melter and Refiner, etc. Col. Baker and Hart, with District-Attorney Osborne appeared for the prosecution, and Messrs. J. V. Watson and H. S. Love on the part of the defense. The case occupied two days, and the principal witnesses for the prosecution and defense were persons connected with the Mint. In the course of the trial Mr. Hempstead, Superintendent, testified that there was a deficiency of \$152,000 in Haraszthy's accounts; that he had spoken to Haraszthy concerning it, and that officer told him that some of it went up the chimney; that he might have, by accident, turned over bars twice; and that employees under him might have stolen the money. He always denied any fraud on his part, or the connivance of any one else. Mr. Hempstead said that "during the time Haraszthy was in the Mint there were three settlements; the wastage on the first settlement was about 204 ounces; the next one was a bad settlement, and the last was an awful one." After hearing all the evidence, the accused waived the opening address; Col. Baker, for the prosecution, made an eloquent summing up, which was most ably responded to by Mr. Watson. At 11 o'clock on Saturday night, the Court gave a short but impartial charge, and the jury retired, but returned at 12 o'clock, when, in answer to the usual question, the foreman said, "There is no possibility of an agreement upon a verdict." Judge Freelon then discharged the jury and the Court adjourned, *sine die*.

Antonio Orlinski was arrested by the police for grand larceny. On the examination of his effects his trunks were found to contain gold watches, diamond jewelry, silver ware, valuable cases of surgical instruments, and other articles to the amount of ten or fifteen thousand dollars, all of which had been stolen from our citizens. As soon as the articles were exposed to view, many of them were recognized and claimed by those from whom they had been stolen. On Saturday, Orlinski was brought into the Police Court, when he was examined on six different charges of grand larceny. The proof was clear against him, and he was sent to the Court of Sessions for trial on each case. Orlinski was temporarily confined in the Station House, but being a desperate villain was determined not to remain there. By some means he had been furnished with a file, a crowbar, and a pair of pincers, and on Wednesday morning, the 9th inst., about half past three o'clock, having succeeded in loosening one of the wooden bars of his cell, he crept stealthily up behind officer Moore, who was seated by the stove, raised the bar and inflicted a stunning blow upon the officer's head, knocking him to the floor senseless. He then dealt him two other blows on the head, fracturing his skull, and left him for dead. The villain then robbed the officer of \$40, took the jail key from his pocket, let himself out, and walked leisurely through the rear of the City Hall. The alarm was soon given and he was followed, but made good his escape. This fellow is a Polanders by birth, aged about 37 years. He is an escaped convict from his own country, and is said to have served three years in the