

## The Press.

A history of the city of Stockton and of San Joaquin county, however short and superficial, would be incomplete without a brief review of the rise and progress of the press of the city. It is characteristic of our American civilization that wherever a community of four or five score of persons is planted, the newspaper is the second civil institution evolved—the inevitable drinking saloon being the first. The pioneer days of Stockton formed no exception to the rule; and before there was a building of sufficient solidity to shelter the press and types from the Winter rains or Summer sun, the newspaper found a welcome and permanent home here.

### THE STOCKTON TIMES

Was the title of the pioneer journal of this city and valley. It was issued first on the 16th of March, 1850, by Mr. John White. It was a small and crude looking sheet, but creditable to the enterprise and talent of the founder, the time and circumstances considered, and its name deserves to be held in grateful and reverential memory by the present and all future generations in this valley. The Times was published weekly, being enlarged from time to time, until April 26, 1851, when it ceased to exist, and was succeeded by the San Joaquin Republican, the first number of which was published on the 14th of May following, by Mr. George Kerr. H. H. Radcliff was associated with Mr. White in the Times from July, 1850, until the close of its career. Mr. White continued his connection with the press of the State for several years in one capacity and another, and eventually died on a voyage to England, his native country. Mr. Radcliff, like thousands of others prominent in the early days, disappeared, and we have no record of his fate.

### SAN JOAQUIN REPUBLICAN.

The first number of the Republican was delayed for several days by the destruction of the press and other materials by the great fire that destroyed the city on the night of May 6th, 1851. The paper was at first issued semi-weekly, and was handsomely printed and ably conducted in all of its departments. It was established as a Democratic

Large Stock of Guns, Pistols & Amunition at **HOGAN & SMITH**, Stockton.