

# Southern Vineyard.

ANGELES, OCTOBER 30, 1858.

THOMAS BOYCE, N. E. corner of Montgomery and Washington streets, is the only authorized Agent of the SOUTHERN VINEYARD in San Francisco.

## Water.

The indifference manifested by our citizens respecting the water used for table and culinary purposes is, or would be to an observing visitor, most astonishing. From the location of the city proper, and the aqueduct, the latter, in its present unprotected state necessarily receives the drainage of the streets and yards (not to name other places) of the city. As if the surface washings which by the rains are carried into the stream to pollute its waters was not enough, a large sewer with side ones from private dwellings and Hotels has been recently constructed to pour through their dark and subterranean channels, into the stream from which is derived the daily supply of water for family use, an unknown quantity and quality of matter more easily conceived than described.

The rapid growth of our city demands that the water with which the health of our citizens is so intimately connected, should not be contaminated by the injurious system pursued at present. To protect the stream from the washings of the city, would require a sewer running along the upper side of the stream the whole length of the city.— This, in the present state of finances might not be deemed advisable. A plan has been proposed, and we believe that one of our citizens has petitioned the Mayor and Council to permit him to supply a reservoir to be built on the elevation back of the city with water from the stream, from whence it could be conducted to all parts of the city.— The plan is feasible, doubly economical, not attended with much expense, and would furnish all of our citizens who desire it, with pure water.

We are confident that no long period will elapse before an aqueduct of masonwork will be constructed for the conveyance of the water through the city and vineyards; but even then, some system must be adopted to furnish the city with water. Not only our convenience and health, but even our very safety requires that something be done, and it were well that it were done quickly. We published a communication a few weeks since upon the subject of a Fire engine. The business part of our city is becoming compactly built with valuable structures. One fire in the central part of the city would destroy property of more value than the cost and equipment of an effective fire department.

The city of Los Angeles is most admirably situated to put in operation a most perfect system for the distribution of water through and over the city. With an elevated table land in the immediate rear of the city overlooking all of the houses which are or may be built, upon which reservoirs can be constructed from which the water may be led along our streets, into our yards and up to the roofs of any of our houses, furnishing a perfect guarantee against a conflagration, and adding beauty, health and convenience to our city and its inmates. We do not know why action by the Common Council upon the proposition that was made some time since to construct a reservoir has been deferred. We do not see that any valid objection could be made by any citizen. It is not asked, we believe, that the city shall incur any expense, but solely grant the privilege of taking the water from the stream and the laying of pipes in the streets. Those who require and use water for irrigation could not oppose the plan for it would directly benefit them, as a less quantity of water would be abstracted from the stream to serve the city if it was carried in pipes laid under the ground, than when carried in pipes drawn by horses. In the latter case there is great waste, and in the former none. It is to be hoped that something will be done, and not that from indifference the subject will be suffered to remain dormant until a conflagration which shall destroy hundreds of thousands of dollars, or an epidemic induced by the filthiness of the water shall depopulate our city and arouse our sleepy fathers and citizens to action. Let us have a reservoir on the hill planted round with the beautiful "pepper tree," under the shade of which the youth and beauty, as well as, old age may recline on a summers eve, and view the verdent fields and vineyards spread out as a graceful border to the city where angels might covet a residence.