

# Weekly Puget Sound Dispatch.

SATURDAY.....DEC. 9, 1876.

## THE "COCK AND BULL"—STORY OF ELIZA PINKSTON.

For the past three days, a story of a woman named Eliza Pinkston, has come to us hashed and rehashed in the Associated Press dispatches of the *Oregonian*. When this poor deluded woman first told her story before the Louisiana Returning Board, it rightly caused the indignation of the northern visitors who were witnessing the count. Gov. Palmer, (Dem.) jumped from his seat and said in wrath, "If this story be false those that prepared it for this poor woman should be hanged, but as I firmly believe it is true, the wretches who can perpetrate such atrocities should be executed without mercy. I will spend ten thousand dollars to ferret out this case. It looks true; this poor woman has certainly been cruelly wronged. The question is broader now than President making; it is one of humanity. If she has told the truth, Sheridan should come back at once and hold with a grip of iron the people who can see such infamy without remonstrance even in their public prints."

The story of the woman was this: That at night some white men visited her home, killed her husband, tore her baby from her arms and cut its throat, and after stabbing and shooting her, ten of the white men proceeded to ravish her. The latter part of her story was so improbable that the Democrats, notwithstanding her seemingly horrible condition, proceeded to investigate the case. They found that immediately after the affair she claimed that the desolators of her home were colored men, and upon cross-questioning her, she admitted that fact. Also that she does not know the color of the men who committed the deed. No doubt, as this woman has been kept under surveillance since her arrival in New Orleans, by the Republicans, that finding the woman in the condition she was they have attempted to adroitly turn the affair to their own benefit. Or, this may be another Francis Thompson affair. Thompson, it will be remembered, testified as a woman, that she had been ravished sixteen times in one night, during the political canvass of '74, and to various other shocking occurrences, before the Congressional Investigating Committee sent South to unearth Southern outrages. This Thompson, as grimly as it may appear, turned out to be a man, but was not found out for nearly two years after, when he was convicted of felony, and at the police station his sex was discovered. We advise the Northern visitors to investigate by close inspection the extent of Mrs. Pinkston's wounds, before they take much stock in her story, and let no *acting* delude them.

If, however, upon thorough investigation, it should be proven that this act was done or instigated by Louisiana Democrats, we have no words to express our loathing and detestation of the foul deed. Hanging would be too good for the perpetrators of the act. But this story must be carefully weighed before the people North will place any reliance or faith in it. This is probably but an incident in the farce that is now being played at the South, by the Republicans of that section.