

about two, P.M., when I saw crowds of people rushing down the street. Supposing it was a fire, I thought but little of it; when, in a minute, I heard the tap of the Committee-bell, and I knew then there was trouble somewhere. I closed my store immediately, as all my neighbors were doing, and started for the stable. Men were rushing through the streets as if wild; and I soon heard the cry, "Judge Terry has killed one of the Vigilants!" I had my horse saddled, and started for headquarters, where I found my company present and in line. I reported to the general, and, in less than half an hour after the bell rang, was on the ground, among some two thousand men, who had surrounded the building whither Judge Terry had fled. Judge Terry was taken prisoner, though not a gun was fired or a man hurt; and in another hour the city was quiet again." Sewall was also sent more than once on expeditions that required courage and ability, such as searching houses, making arrests, &c.; and always succeeded to the satisfaction of the Committee.

Business in the city was now very dull, and Sewall became interested in some mining speculations in Lower California. Some friends were going down to that country to locate grants, mines, &c.; and, having had an excellent offer made to him, he concluded to accompany them, thinking to increase his store of worldly goods, and enjoy a trip through Lower California at the same time. It was a wild, almost unknown country; but his love of adventure led him to look upon the journey as one of pleasure rather than toil. He left San Francisco in May, 1857; going by water to Santa Barbara, — one of the southern ports of California. From here he went to Los Angeles, San Pedro, San Diego, and other towns in that vicinity; riding on horseback hundreds of miles, spreading his blankets in the open air, yet always happy, always cheerful; often obliged to shoot his supper before he ate it; writing his letters on his saddle-cloth, the top of his hat, a tin plate, or a milk-pan; visiting mines; locating grants; riding sometimes sixty-five miles in a day; travelling among the Mexicans and native Californians, — himself nearly as brown as they. He speaks of them as treating him very kindly, and being very hospitable towards the "Americanos;" and goes into raptures over the beautiful scenery that is constantly attracting his attention. I