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PROBABLE MURDER OF A STRANGER BY THE CAMPO BANDITS

From Mr. Hunsaker we learn the following particulars in regard to the probable murder of a stranger by the Campo outlaws previous to their raid at Gaskill's store. On Thursday of last week, a stranger stopped over night at Valle de las Viejas. His name was not ascertained. He was from some point in San Joaquin county, and was looking up a bee-ranch suitable to purchase, and apparently had money with him for that purpose. He rode a yellow or cream colored horse, and carried a Henry rifle. He also carried a gold watch, attached to a peculiar chain, in the center of which was several silver links. On Friday morning he started for Milquatay, since which time nothing has been seen or heard of him. It is believed that he fell into the hands of the Campo bandits, and was murdered. These fears arise from the fact that the bandit who was killed by Silas Gaskill was armed with a Henry rifle. When he fell, however, one of the other bandits rushed up and secured the rifle and made good his escape. But what renders the murder almost certain is that on the body of the wounded bandit who gave himself up on Sunday morning, was found a gold watch and chain exactly corresponding with that worn by the stranger at Valley de las Viejas. From this there seems but little doubt that the stranger was murdered by the outlaws.

A "Miss L. B. Hunsicker" was an early-day local historian. Her notes are kept in the archives of the San Diego Historical Society. The Campo shootout was one of the most violent of the American West.

Milquatay was the Kumeyaay name for the valley around Campo.

Collected and endnoted by Albert Simonson.

Typed and submitted by Carol Walker.

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