

Oakland Troubled About Her Water Front.

The water-front question is likely to be an important element in the approaching municipal election in Oakland. The *News*, which seems to have taken up the advocacy of the FELTON ticket, alludes to a prejudice existing against that gentleman in certain quarters in consequence of his agency in the bargain which gave away the entire water front of the city to the Pacific Railroad upon the promise that the terminus of that road should be at Oakland. It is certain that Mr. FELTON was chiefly instrumental in bringing about the compromise of the CARPENTIER suit against the city and the transfer of the water front to the railroad company, both of which were parts of one and the same transaction. The *News* argues that at the time of the transaction the citizens approved of it, and that "every man who owned a twenty-five foot lot was ready to hug and kiss his neighbor, in view of the glorious prospects in store for Oakland." Admitting this to be so, the question is whether these sanguine expectations have been fulfilled; whether there was ever any solid foundation for them; whether those expectations were not aroused and stimulated by certain "prominent citizens" and capitalists who wanted to bring about the CARPENTIER compromise and the conveyance of the water front for purposes of their own? At the time of the enthusiastic meeting about a year ago, when Mr. FELTON and Mayor MERRITT, and Mr. DWINELLE, and Mr. TOMPKINS made such enthusiastic speeches, and painted the future of the Terminal Metropolis in such glowing colors, the promise was held forth to the people that the railroad company would spend \$500,000 in improving the water front *within eighteen months* from that date. Has this "improvement" been commenced? Perhaps the *News* can tell the people why nothing has yet been done and when the company means to begin the work. Meantime, for some reason or other, a spirit of doubt and inquiry as to the benefits to be reaped as the result of the bargain seems to be springing up in the minds of a considerable portion of the people of Oakland.