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From the National Intelligencer.
**CAPTAIN FREMONT'S SECOND
EXPLORING EXPEDITION.**
CONCLUDED.

"May 10.—This morning, as soon as there was light enough to follow tracks, I set out myself, with Mr. Fitzpatrick and several men, in search of Tabebu. We went to the spot where the appearance of puddled blood had been seen; and this, we saw at once, had been the place where he fell and died. Blood upon the leaves, and beaten down bushes, showed that he had got his wound about twenty paces from where he fell, and that he had struggled for his life. He had probably been shot through the lungs with an arrow. From the place where he lay and bled, it could be seen that he had been dragged to the river bank, and thrown into it. No residue of what had belonged to him could be found, except a fragment of his horse equipment. Horse, gun, clothes—all became the prey of these Arabs of the New World.

"Tabebu had been one of our best men, and his unhappy death spread a gloom over our party. Men, who have gone through such dangers and sufferings as we had seen, become like brothers, and feel each other's loss. To defend and avenge each other is the deep feeling of all. We wished to avenge his death, but the condition of our horses, languishing for grass and repose, forbade an expedition into unknown mountains. We knew the tribe who had done the mischief—the same which had been insulting our camp. They knew what they deserved, and had the discretion to show themselves to us no more. The day before, they infested our camp; now, not one appeared; nor did we ever afterwards see but one who even belonged to the same tribe, and he at a distance."

"On the 12th May the expedition reached Las Vegas de Santa Clara, which had been so long presented to us as the terminating point of the desert, and where the annual caravan from California to New Mexico halted and recruited for some weeks. It was a very suitable place to recover from the fatigue and exhaustion of a month's suffering in the hot and sterile desert. The meadow was about a mile wide, and some ten miles long, bordered by grassy hills and mountains—some of the latter rising two thousand feet, and white with snow down to the level of the vegas. Its elevation above the sea was 5,280 feet; latitude, by observation, 37° 29' 25"; and its distance from where we first struck the Spanish trail about 400 miles. Counting from the time we reached the desert, and began to skirt, at our descent from Walker's Pass in the Sierra Nevada, we had travelled 550 miles, occupying twenty-seven days, in that inhospitable region. In passing before the great caravan, we had the advantage of finding more grass; but the disadvantage of finding also the marauding savages, who had gathered down upon the trail, waiting the approach of that prey. This greatly increased our labors, besides costing us the life of a valuable man. We had to move all day in a state of watch, and prepared for combat—scouts and flankers out, a front and rear division of our men, and baggage animals in the centre. At night, camp duty was severe. Those who had toiled all day, had to guard, by turns, the camp and the horses all night. Frequently one-third of the whole party were on guard at once; and nothing but this vigilance saved us from attack. We were constantly digged by bands, and even whole tribes of the marauders; and although Tabebu was killed, and our camp infested and insulted by some, while swarms of them remained on the hills and mountain sides, there was manifestly a consultation and calculation going on to decide the question of attacking us. Having reached the resting place of the Vegas de Santa Clara, we had complete relief from the heat and privations of the desert, and some relaxation from the severity of camp duty. Some relaxation, and relaxation only—for camp guards, horse guards, and scouts are indispensable from the time of leaving the frontiers of Missouri until we return to them."

"On the 17th May, after 440 miles of travelling on a trail which served for a road, we again found ourselves under the necessity of exploring a track through the wilderness. The Spanish trail had borne off to the southeast, crossing the Wah-satch range. Our course led to the northeast, along the foot of that range, and leaving it on the right. The mountain presented itself to us under the form of several ridges, rising one above the other, rocky, and wooded with pine and cedar; the last ridge covered with snow. Sevier river, flowing northwardly to the lake of the same name, collects its principal waters from this section of the Wah-satch chain. We had now entered a region of great pastoral promise, abounding with the streams, the rich bunch grass, soil that would produce wheat, and indigenous flax, growing as if it had been sown. Consistent with the general character of its bordering mountains, this fertility of soil and vegetation does not extend far into the Great Basin. Mr. Joseph Walker, our guide, who joined us on the 12th, and who has more knowledge of these parts than any man I know, informed me that all the country to the left was unknown to him, and that even the Digger tribes, which frequented Lake Sevier could tell him nothing about it.

"May 20.—We met a band of Utah Indians, headed by a well known chief, who had obtained the American or English name of Walker, by which he is quoted and well known. They were all mounted, armed with rifles, and used their rifles well. The chief had a fusee, which he had carried slung, in addition to his rifle. They were journeying slowly towards the Spanish trail, to levy their usual tribute upon the great Californian caravan. They were robbers of a higher order than those of the desert. They conducted their depredations with form, and under the color of trade and toll for passing through their country. Instead of attacking and killing, they affect to purchase—taking the horses they like, and giving something nominal in return. The chief was quite civil to me. He was personally acquainted with his namesake, our guide, who made my name known to him. He knew of my expedition of 1842; and, as tokens of friendship, and proof that we had met, proposed an interchange of presents. We had no great store to choose out of; so he gave me a Mexican blanket, and I gave him a very fine one which I had obtained at Vancouver."

"Crossing on the 24th May a slight ridge along the river, we entered a handsome mountain valley covered with fine grass, and directed our course towards a high snowy peak, at the foot of which lay the Utah Lake. On our right was a bed of high mountains, their summits covered with snow, constituting the dividing ridge

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES,
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NEW SERIES,
NUMBER 25, OF VOLUME II.

SALISBURY, N. C., OCTOBER 18, 1845.

between the Basin waters and those of the Colorado. At noon we fell in with a party of Indians coming out of the mountain, and in the afternoon encamped on a tributary to the lake, which is separated from the waters of the Sevier by very slight dividing grounds.

"Early the next day we came in sight of the lake; and, as we descended to the broad bottoms of the Spanish fork, three horsemen were seen galloping towards us, who proved to be Utah Indians—scouts from a village, which was encamped near the mouth of the river. They were armed with rifles, and their horses were in good condition. We encamped near them, on the Spanish fork, which is one of the principal tributaries to the lake. Finding the Indians troublesome, and desirous to remain here a day, we removed the next morning further down the lake, and encamped on a fertile bottom near the foot of the same mountainous ridge which borders the Great Salt Lake, and along which we had journeyed the previous September. Here the principal plants in bloom were two, which were remarkable as affording to the Utah Indians—the one an abundant supply of food, and the other the most useful among the applications which they use for wounds. These were the kooyah plant, growing in fields of extraordinary luxuriance, and *concallaria stellata*, which, from the experience of Mr. Walker, is the best remedial plant known among those Indians. A few miles below us was another village of Indians, from which we obtained some fish—among them a few salmon trout, which were very much inferior in size to those along the Californian mountains. The season for taking them had not yet arrived; but the Indians were daily expecting them to come out of the lake.

"We had now accomplished an object we had in view when leaving the Dalles of the Columbia in November last: we had reached the Utah Lake; but by a route very different from what we had intended, and without sufficient time remaining to make the examinations which were desired. It is a lake of note in this country, under the dominion of the Utahs, who resort to it for fish. Its greatest breadth is about fifteen miles, stretching far to the north, narrowing as it goes, and connecting with the Great Salt Lake. This is the report, and which I believe to be correct; but it is fresh water, while the other is not only salt, but a saturated solution of salt; and here is a problem which requires to be solved. It is almost entirely surrounded by mountains, walled on the north and east by a high and snowy range, which supplies it to a fan of tributary streams."

"In arriving at the Utah lake, we had completed an immense circuit of twelve degrees diameter—north and south, and ten degrees east and west; and found ourselves, in May, 1844, on the same sheet of water which we had left in September, 1842. The Utah is the southern limb of the Great Salt Lake; and thus we had seen that remarkable sheet of water both at its northern and southern extremity; and were able to fix its position at these two points. The circuit which we had made, and which had cost us eight months of time, and 3,500 miles of travelling, had given us a view of Oregon and of North California from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific ocean, and of the two principal streams which form bays or harbors on the coast of that sea. Having completed this circuit, and being now about to turn the back upon the Pacific slope of our continent and to recross the Rocky Mountains, it is natural to look back upon our footsteps, and take some brief view of the leading features and general structure of the country we had traversed. These are peculiar and striking, and differ essentially from the Atlantic side of our country. The Mountains all are higher, more numerous, and more distinctly defined in their ranges and directions; and, what is so contrary to the natural order of such formations, one of these ranges, which is near the coast (the Sierra Nevada and the Coast Range), presents higher elevations and peaks than any which are to be found in the Rocky Mountains themselves. In our eight months' circuit we were never out of sight of snow; and the Sierra Nevada where we crossed it, was near 2,000 feet higher than the south Pass in the Rocky Mountains. In height these mountains greatly exceeded those of the Atlantic side, constantly presenting peaks which enter the region of eternal snow; and some of them volcanic, and in a frequent state of activity. They are seen at great distances, and guide the traveller in his courses.

"The course and elevation of these ranges give direction to the rivers and character to the coast. No great river does or can take its rise below the Cascade and Sierra Nevada range: the distance to the sea is too short to admit of it. The rivers of the San Francisco bay, which are the largest after the Columbia, are local to that bay, and lateral to the coast, having their sources about on a line with the Dalles of the Columbia, and running each in a valley of its own, between Coast range and the Cascade and Sierra Nevada range. The Columbia is the only river which traverses the whole breadth of the country breaking through all the ranges, and entering the sea.—Drawing its waters from a section of ten degrees of latitude in the Rocky Mountains, which are collected into one stream by three main forks (Lewis's, Clark's, and the North fork) near the centre of the Oregon valley, this great river thence proceeds by a single channel to the sea, while its three forks lead each to a pass in the mountains, which opens the way into the interior of the continent. This fact in relation to the rivers of this region gives an immense value to the Columbia. Its mouth is the only inlet and outlet to and from the sea; its three forks lead to the passes in the mountains; it is therefore the only line of communication between the Pacific and the interior of North America; and all operations of war or commerce, of national or intercourse, must be conducted upon it. This gives it a value beyond estimation, and would involve irreparable injury if lost. In this unity and concentration of its waters, the Pacific side of our continent differs entirely from the Atlantic side where the waters of the Alleghany mountains are dispersed into many rivers, having their different entrances into the sea, and opening many lines of communication with the interior."

"The Pacific coast is equally different from

that of the Atlantic. The coast of the Atlantic is low and open, indented with numerous bays, sounds, and river estuaries, accessible every where, and opening by many channels into the heart of the country. The Pacific coast, on the contrary, is high and compact, with few bays, and but one that opens into the heart of the country. The immense coast is what the seamen call *iron bound*. A little within, it is skirted by two successive ranges of mountains, standing as ramparts between the sea and the interior country, and to get through which there is but one gate, and that narrow and easily defended. This structure of the coast, backed by these two ranges of mountains, with its concentration and unity of waters, gives to the country an immense military strength, and will probably render Oregon the most impregnable country in the world.

"Differing so much from the Atlantic side of our continent, in coast, mountains, and rivers, the Pacific side differs from it in another most rare and singular feature—that of the Great interior Basin, of which I have so often spoken, and the whole form and character of which I was so anxious to ascertain. Its existence is vouched for by such of the American traders and hunters as have knowledge of that region; the structure of the Sierra Nevada range of mountains requires it to be there; and my own observations confirm it. Mr. Joseph Walker, who is so well acquainted in those parts, informed me that from the Great Salt lake west there was a succession of lakes and rivers, which have no outlet to the sea, nor any connexion with the Columbia or with the Colorado of the Gulf of California. He described some of these lakes as being large, with numerous streams, and even considerable rivers falling into them. In fact all concur in the general report of these interior river and lakes; and for want of understanding the force and power of evaporation, which so soon establishes an equilibrium between the loss and supply of waters, the false of whirlpools and subterraneous outlets has gained belief, as the only imaginable way of carrying off the waters which have no visible discharge. The structure of the country would require this formation of interior lakes; for the waters which would collect between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada, not being able to cross this formidable barrier, nor to get to the Columbia or the Colorado, must naturally collect in reservoirs, each of which would have its little system of streams and rivers to supply it. This would be the natural effect; and what I saw went to confirm it. The Great Salt lake is a formation of this kind, and quite a large one; and having many streams and one considerable river, four or five hundred miles long, falling into it. This lake and river I saw and examined myself; and also saw the Wah-satch and Bear River mountains which enclose the waters of the lake on the east, and constitute in that quarter the rim of the Great Basin. Afterwards, along the eastern base of the Sierra Nevada, where we travelled forty-two days, I saw the line of lakes and rivers which lie at the foot of that Sierra; and which Sierra is the western rim of the Basin. In going down Lewis's fork and the main Columbia, I crossed only inferior streams coming in from the left, such as could draw their water from a short distance only; and I often saw the mountains at their heads white with snow; which all accounts said, divided the waters of the desert from those of the Columbia, and which could be no other than the range of mountains which form the rim of the basin on its northern side. And in returning from California along the Spanish trail, as far as the head of the Santa Clara fork of the Rio Virgen, I crossed only small streams making their way south to the Colorado, or lost in sand—as the Mo-havé; while to the left lofty mountains, their summits white with snow, were often visible, and which must have turned water to the north as well as to the south, and thus constituted on this part the southern rim of the Basin. At the head of the Santa Clara fork, and in the Vegas do Santa Clara, we crossed the ridge which parted the two systems of waters. We entered the Basin at that point, and have travelled in it ever since, having its southeastern rim (the Wah-satch mountain) on the right, and crossing the streams which flow down into it. The existence of the Basin is therefore an established fact in my mind; its extent and contents are yet to be better ascertained. It cannot be less than four or five hundred miles each way, and must lie principally in the Alta California; the demarcation latitude of 42° probably cutting a segment from the north part of the rim. Of its interior but little is known. It is called a desert, and from what I saw of it, sterility may be its prominent characteristic; but where there is so much water, there must be some oasis. The great river and the great lake reported, may not be equal to the report; but where there is so much snow, there must be streams; and where there is no outlet, there must be lakes to hold the accumulated waters, or sands to swallow them up. In this eastern part of the Basin, containing Sevier, Utah, and the Great Salt lakes, and the rivers and creeks, falling into them, we know there is good soil and good grass, adapted to civilized settlements. In the western part, on Salmon Trout river and some other streams, the same remark may be made.

"The contents of this Great Basin are yet to be examined. That it is peopled we know; but miserably and sparsely. From all that I heard and saw, I should say that humanity here appeared in its lowest form, and in its most elementary state. Dispersed in single families, without fire-arms; eating seeds and insects; digging roots, (and hence their name)—such is the condition of the greater part. Others are a degree higher, and live in communities upon some lake or river that supplies fish; and from which they repulse the miserable Digger. The rabbit is the largest animal known in this desert; its flesh affords a little meat; and their bag-like covering is made of its skins. The wild sage is their only food, and here it is of extraordinary size—sometimes a foot in diameter, and six or eight feet high. It serves for fuel, for building material, for shelter to the rabbits, and for some sort of covering for the feet and legs in cold weather. Such are the accounts of the inhabitants and productions of the

Great Basin; and which, though imperfect, must have some foundation and excite our desire to know the whole.

"The whole idea of such a desert, and such a people, is a novelty in our country, and excites Asiatic, not American ideas. Interior basins, with their own systems of lakes and rivers, and often sterile, are common enough in Asia; people still in the elementary state of families, living in deserts, with no other occupation than the mere animal search for food, may still be seen in that ancient quarter of the globe; but in America such things are new and strange, unknown and unsuspected, and discredited when related. But I flatter myself that what is discovered, though not enough to satisfy curiosity, is sufficient to excite it, and that subsequent explorations will complete what has been commenced.

"This account of the Great Basin, it will be remembered, belongs to the Alta California, and has no application to Oregon, whose capabilities may justify a separate remark. Referring to my journal for particular descriptions, and for sectional boundaries between good and bad districts, I can only say, in general and comparative terms, that, in that branch of agriculture which implies the cultivation of grains and staple crops, it would be inferior to the Atlantic States, though many parts are superior for wheat; while in the rearing of flocks and herds it would claim a high place. Its grazing capabilities are great; and even in the indigenous grass now there, an element of individual and national wealth may be found. In fact, the valuable grasses begin within one hundred and fifty miles of the Missouri frontier, and extend to the Pacific ocean. East of the Rocky Mountains, it is the short curly grass, on which the buffalo delight to feed, (whence its name of buffalo), and which is still good when dry and apparently dead. West of those mountains it is a larger growth, in clusters, and hence called bunchgrass, and which has a second or fall growth. Plains and mountains both exhibit them; and I have seen good pasturage at an elevation of ten thousand feet. In this spontaneous product, the trading or travelling caravans can find subsistence for their animals; and in military operations any number of cavalry may be moved, and any number of cattle may be driven; and thus men and horses be supported on long expeditions, and even in winter in the sheltered situations.

"Commercially, the value of the Oregon country must be great, washed as it is by the north Pacific ocean—fronting Asia—producing many of the elements of commerce—mild and healthy, in its climate—and becoming as it naturally will a thoroughfare for the East India and China trade."

But little novelty of incident befell our travellers during their comparatively easy journeying homeward. On the 13th June they were about two degrees south of the South Pass in the Rocky Mountains, and—

"Our course home," says Capt. F., "would have been eastwardly; but that would have taken us over ground already examined, and therefore without the interest which would excite curiosity. Southwardly there were objects worthy to be explored, to wit, the approximation of the head-waters of three different rivers—the Platte, the Arkansas, and the Grand River fork of the Rio Colorado of the Gulf of California; the Passes at the heads of these rivers; and the three remarkable mountain coves called Parks, in which they took their rise. One of these Parks was, of course, on the western side of the dividing ridge; and a visit to it would require us once more to cross the summit of the Rocky Mountains to the west, and then to re-cross to the east; making in all, with the transit we had just accomplished, three crossings of that mountain in this section of its course. But no matter. The cores, the heads of the rivers, the approximation of their waters, the practicability of the mountain passes, and the locality of the THREE PARKS, were all objects of interest, and, although well known to hunters and trappers, were unknown to science and to history. We therefore changed our course, and turned up the Valley of the Platte instead of going down it.

"We crossed several small affluents, and again made a fortified camp in a grove. The country had now become very beautiful—rich in water, grass, and game; and to these were added the charm of scenery and pleasant weather."

After an interesting visit to the "New and Old Parks," which are described as being fertile and well wooded and watered valleys, and "a paradise to all grazing animals," the party arrived on the 22d June at the summit of the dividing ridge, to which Capt. F. gives an estimated height of 11,200 feet.

"On the 23d we were met by a party of Utah women, who told us that on the other side of the ridge their village was fighting with the Arapahoes. As soon as they had given us this information, they filled the air with cries and lamentations, which made us understand that some of their chiefs had been killed.

"Extending along the river directly ahead of us was a low piny ridge, leaving between it and the stream a small open bottom, on which the Utahs had very injudiciously placed their village, according to the women, numbered about 300 warriors. Advancing in the cover of the pines, the Arapahoes, about daylight, charged into the village, driving off a great number of their horses and killing four men; among them the principal chief of the village. They drove the horses perhaps a mile beyond the village to the end of a hollow, where they had previously fortified at the edge of the pines. Here the Utahs had instantly attacked them in turn, and, according to the report of the women, were getting rather best of the day. The women pressed us eagerly to join with their people, and would immediately have provided us with the best horses at the village; but it was not for us to interfere in such a conflict. Neither party were our friends, nor under our protection; and

each was ready to prey upon us that could. But we could not help feeling an unusual excitement at being within a few hundred yards of a fight, in which 500 men were closely engaged and hearing the sharp cracks of their rifles. We were in a bad position, and subject to fall upon us; and, gearing up immediately, we kept close along the pines of the ridge, having it between us and the village, and keeping the scouts on the summit to give us notice of the approach of Indians. As we passed by the village, which was immediately below us, horsemen were galloping to and fro, and groups of people were gathered around those who were wounded and dead, and who were being brought in from the field. We continued to press on, and crossing another fork which came in from the right, after having made fifteen miles from the village, fortified ourselves strongly in the pines a short distance from the river."

The party arrived at Brent's Fort on the 1st July, where they were received—

"With a cordial welcome and a friendly hospitality, in the enjoyment of which we spent several agreeable days. We were now in the region where our mountaineers were accustomed to live, and all the dangers and difficulties of the road being considered past, four of them including Carson and Walker, remained at the fort."

The expedition reached the little town of Kansas on the banks of the Missouri river on the 31st July, having made a journey of 3,702 miles from the Dalles of the Columbia, and of 2,563 from Capt. Sutter's settlement of New Helvetia.

"During our protracted absence of fourteen months, in the course of which we had necessarily been exposed to great varieties of weather and of climate, no one case of sickness had ever occurred among us.

"Here ended our land journey; and the day following our arrival, we found ourselves on board a steamboat rapidly gliding down the broad Missouri. Our travel-mongers had not been sold and dispersed over the country to renewed labor, but were placed at good pasturage on the frontier, and are now ready to do their part in the coming expedition.

The narrative concludes with the arrival at St. Louis on the 16th of August, where the party was disbanded.

"Andreas Fuentes also remained here, having readily found employment for the winter, and is one of the men engaged to accompany me the present year."

"Pablo Hernandez remains in the family of Senator Benton, where he is well taken care of, and conciliates good will by his docility, intelligence, and amiability. General Almonte, the Mexican Minister at Washington, to whom he was of course made known, kindly offered to take charge of him, and to carry him back to Mexico; but the boy preferred to remain where he was until he got an education, for which he shows equal ardor and aptitude."

"Our Chinook Indian had his wish to see the whites fully gratified. He accompanied me to Washington, and, after remaining several months at the Columbia college, was sent by the Indian department to Philadelphia, where, among other things, he learned to read and write well, and speak the English with some fluency."

"He will accompany me in a few days to the frontier of Missouri, whence he will be sent with some one of the emigrant companies to the village at the Dalles of the Columbia."

We have thus endeavored to furnish our readers with such an analysis of Capt. Fremont's two expeditions as may, with the copious extracts which we have made from the narrative, enable them not only to trace his adventurous course, but also to estimate what he has accomplished, and the great value of the information which he has collected, in a geographical, a commercial, and a scientific point of view. We will not attempt a recapitulation; for where so much has been done, and so well done, it would be only to repeat, in another form, the substance of all which we have already said. In geographical discovery Captain FREMONT has done much: he has shown that the transit across the Rocky Mountains, particularly at the Southern Pass, is comparatively easy; that the proportion of absolutely barren country is small; that, from within one hundred and fifty miles of the Missouri frontier to the longitude at Fort Laramie, (105 deg. 40 min.) there is in general great plenty of the short early grass called buffalo grass. Westward of Laramie, for a considerable distance, the region is sandy and apparently sterile, and the place of the grass is usurped by the artemisia: other localities, where there is a deficiency of pasturage, are found on both sides of the mountains. These expeditions, however, will furnish to trading caravans, or to emigrating parties, a knowledge of the most practicable routes, where they may most generally find sustenance for their animals and water and fuel for themselves. The road to Oregon will be made comparatively easy; and although the emigrant who contemplates taking up his line of march to that distant region ought to be apprized and guarded against the dangers, the difficulties, and the privations he will have to encounter, yet he may be cheered by the certainty that he will meet with nothing but what foresight and prudence may in a great measure protect

him from, and courage, firmness, and perseverance overcome. He will be called upon to exercise all these qualities; and the most dangerous error into which he can fall is to imagine the journey is an easy one, and the toil and suffering which he will have to undergo trifling and unimportant.

The Great Salt Lake, the Bear River Valley, and the rivers, the valleys, and the mountains of Upper California may be said to be now first brought to the knowledge of civilized man by these expeditions. The correction of our former geographical errors with respect to the river *Buenaventura* we owe to Captain F.; the existence of a great central plain or basin in California is established by him, as is also the important fact that there is no outlet of any navigable size which has its outlet directly into the Pacific, and communication with the western slope of our continent, except the Columbia, between fifty degrees of northern latitude and the Gulf California. In a military point of view these expeditions point out where forts and posts may be most advantageously established, with a view to the safe occupancy of the country and the protection of the inhabitants and the trader from Indian outrage, or from aggressions or interferences of any kind. This, we believe, was the professedly authorized object of Captain Fremont's expeditions; but his ardent and active temperament, and his love of science and knowledge, could not rest satisfied with a bare performance of prescribed duties. He has submitted to his countrymen and the world, in his unpretending and modest narrative, a vast body of botanical, geological, and meteorological information. The soil and the mineral waters have been subjected to analysis. More than four hundred and thirty astronomical observations are recorded, the latitude and the longitude of important points accurately determined, and the elevation of mountains ascertained. The survey of Captain Fremont from the eastward meets that of Captain Wilkes from the westward, and, so far as is requisite for all immediate purposes, the map of Oregon is complete. The appendix to Captain Fremont's narrative contains Dr. James Hall's (of New York) report upon the nature of the geological formations occupying the portions of Oregon and California traversed by Captain Fremont, as deduced from his observations, and the specimens of minerals and vegetable and animal organic remains which he collected.

Professor Torrey makes the following statement with respect to the botanical collections of the expedition:

"When Captain Fremont set out on his second expedition he was well provided with paper and other means for making extensive botanical collections; and it was understood that, on his return, we should conjointly prepare a full account of his plants, to be appended to his report. About fourteen hundred species were collected, many of them in regions not before explored by any botanist. In consequence, however, of the great length of the journey, and the numerous accidents to which the party were exposed, but especially owing to the dreadful flood of the Kansas, which deluged the borders of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, more than half of his specimens were ruined before he reached the borders of civilization. Even the portion saved were greatly damaged, so that, in many instances, it has been extremely difficult to determine the plants. As there was not sufficient time before the publication of Captain Fremont's report for the proper study of the remains of his collection, it has been deemed advisable to reserve the greater part of them to incorporate with the plants which we expect he will bring with him on returning from his third expedition, upon which he has just set out."

"The loss sustained by Captain Fremont, and I may say by the botanical world, will, we trust, be partly made up the present and next seasons, as much of the same country will be passed over again, and some new regions explored. Arrangements have also been made by which the botanical collections will be preserved, at least from the destructive effects of water, and a person accompanies the expedition who is to make drawings of all the most interesting plants. Particular attention will be given to the forest trees and the vegetable productions that are useful in the arts or that are employed for food or medicine."

Professor Torrey furnishes in the appendix descriptions of about thirty new genera and species of plants collected by Captain Fremont.

The objects of Captain Fremont's third exploratory tour are, we believe, correctly detailed in the following paragraphs, which we extract from a late number of the Western (Missouri) Expositor:

"The expedition to the Rocky Mountains, under command of Captain J. C. Fremont, of the U. S. Army, being the third exploring tour of that officer, left Westport on the 26th June. Captain Fremont is assisted by two junior officers of the Topographical Corps, and employs eighty men. The design of this expedition is to complete the surveys of the plains and mountains intervening between the western boundary of the Pacific, heretofore partially accomplished by the exploring squadron and the two former expeditions of Captain Fremont. As far as we can learn, this party will proceed to survey the Arkansas river to its source, after completing which the party will be divided. One division will then return by way of the head of the Rio del Norte, through the country of the Comanche Indians, on the sources of the Red river, and by the low waters of the Arkansas. The main division under Captain Fremont, will cross the Colorado, complete the survey of the Great Salt Lake, and penetrate by the waters of Mary's river, which flows westwardly through Upper California, in the vicinity of the 42d degree parallel of latitude, and is lost in a lake at