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UPPER CALIFORNIA.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM CAPT. FREMONT, U. S. ARMY, DATED Yerba Buena, Bay of St. Francisco, Upper California, Jan. 24, 1846.

"Now, as rapidly as possible, I will tell you where I have been and where I am going. I crossed the Rocky Mountains on the main Arkansas, passing out at its very head-water; explored the Southern shore of the great Salt Lake and visited one of its islands. You know that every extant map, manuscript or printed, of the whole of the Great Basin is represented as a level plain, barren, without water, and without grass. Tell your father that, with a volunteer party of fifteen men, I crossed it between the parallels of 38° and 39°. Instead of a plain, I found it, throughout its whole extent, traversed by parallel ranges of lofty mountains, their summits white with snow, (October,) while below the valleys had none. Instead of a barren country, the mountains were covered with grasses of the best quality, wooded with several varieties of trees, and containing more deer and mountain sheep than we had seen in any previous part of our voyage. So utterly at variance with every description, from authentic sources, or from rumor or report, it is fair to consider this country as hitherto wholly unexplored, and never before visited by a white man.

I met my party at the rendezvous, a lake south-west of the Pyramid Lake, and again separated, sending them along the eastern side of the Great Sierra, three or four hundred miles, in a southerly direction, where they were to cross into the valley of the St. Joaquin, near its head. During all the time that I was not with them, Mr. Joseph Walker was their guide, Mr. Tabbot (tell his mother he is well, and does well in charge, and Mr. Kern, the topographer. The eleventh day after leaving them I reached Capt. Sutter's, crossing the Sierra on the 4th December, before the snow had fallen there. Now the Sierra is absolutely impassable, and the place of our passage two years ago is impassable with masses of snow. By the route I have explored I can ride in thirty-five days from the *Tonahua qui Bonit* river to Capt. Sutter's; and, for wagons, the road is decidedly far better. I wish this known to your father, as now, that the journey has been made, it may be said this was already known. I shall make a short journey up the eastern branch of the Sacramento, and go from the Tlamath lake into the Wallowah valley, through a pass alluded to in my report; in this way making the road into Oregon far shorter, and a good road in place of the present very bad one down the Columbia. When I shall have made this short expedition, I shall have explored from beginning to end this road to Oregon.

I have just returned, with my party of sixteen, from an exploring journey in the Sierra Nevada, from the neighborhood of Sutter's to the head of the Lake Fork. We got among heavy snows on the mountain summits, there more rugged than I had elsewhere met them; and suffered again as in our first passage; got among the "horse-thieves," (Indians who lay waste the California frontier,) fought several, and fought our way down into the plain again, and back to Sutter's. Tell your father that I have something handsome to tell him of some exploits of Carson and Dick Owens, and others. I am going now on business to see some gentlemen on the coast, and will then join my people, and complete our survey in this part of the world as rapidly as possible. The season is just now arriving when vegetation is coming out in all the beauty I have often described to you; and in that part of our labors I shall gratify all my hopes. I find the theory of our Great Basin fully confirmed in having its southern boundary ranges of lofty mountains. The Sierra, too, is broader where this chain leaves it than in any other part that I have seen. So soon as the proper season comes, and my animals are rested, we turn our faces homeward, and be sure that grass will not grow under our feet.

All our people are well, and have had no sickness of any kind among us; so that I hope to be able to bring back with me all that I carried out. Many months of hardships, close fights, and anxieties have tried me severely, and my hair is turning gray before its time. But all this passes, *le bon temps viendra*.

"Boiling Spring river, in English. This is the outside settlement on the Arkansas, about seventy miles above Bent's Fort, where old retired hunters and traders, with Mexican and Indian wives, and their children, have collected into some villages, called by the Mexican name for civilized Indian villages pueblos, where they raise grain and stock.

From the Pacific Ocean, California, Oregon and Mexico. Correspondence of the New York Sun.

MONTREY, California, March 6, 1846. Sir—Since the expulsion of General Michorena from this country, the natives have managed their affairs their own way, having the command under Commandante General Castro, at the North, and Governor Pico, at the South. In the meantime the wild Indians are carrying off for food, almost all the horses on the farms. They prefer horse meat to the meat of bullocks. Travelling in some parts of this department has become dangerous, the Indians with their arrows having shot several people they met single and unarmed. Month after month, enterprising immigrants (wild Indians never trouble them,) obtain grants of several leagues of land on the waters of the "magnificent" Bay of San Francisco; purchase cattle of the native farmers, and set up for themselves. The Sacramento at Captain Sutter's new Town of New Helvetia, and above there

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES, Editors & Proprietors.

"KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR IS SAFE."



RULERS. DO THIS, AND LIBERTY Gen'l. Harrison.

NEW SERIES, NUMBER 6, OF VOLUME III.

SALISBURY, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1846.

already teems with the busy hum of settlers.—The soft cedar trees (even 17 feet in diameter and 300 feet high) begin to fall under the New England axes and the Western axemen. The carting in Monterey and Yerba Buena, is partly done by Missouri men and oxen. A schooner has been built by the Americans, at San Francisco, loaded with Californian produce, and both sold at Mazatlan at a high profit; her potatoes sold at 4 dollars per 100 lbs.; beans, five dollars an English bushel, paid in specie. More vessels are now building, several saw mills on the rivers are at work. At Bodega, a large steam saw is nearly finished. Over three hundred men, women and children arrived last October, at Helvetia, went there to see them, and bade them welcome; bringing down a small boy to Monterey to educate with his son.—(Annexation, you see, in future.)

Mazatlan must soon receive her lumber, salmon, bacon, grain, potatoes and vessels, from the Americans on the Sacramento. The Oregon emigrants may well say their country is full of wheat and flour. It must so continue until some new and powerful invention can remove the bar at the Columbia river, to allow a vessel to enter. The Hudson's Bay Company's ships, have been 36 days from the Columbia river to San Francisco, 30 days of which they were at anchor, waiting to get out. I think a whale ship never found her way there, and if she did, the crew might consume their supply of refreshment for the season while they were laying inside the bar, waiting for time windward to go out. Many whalers are yearly supplied at San Francisco, but the land needs more of the American class of laborers to prove its utility. The Californians are quietly looking on, wondering who, and what, will come next, many of them being uncertain whether it is best for their interests that the Yankees should take possession, or best for their patriotism that the Mexican flag, without her laws, should yet fly over them. They are getting used to the stars and stripes, however. Captain Fremont and his party are now in California.

THE SOUTHWESTERN BOUNDARY

A late number of the "Union" has an article to prove that the Rio del Norte is the true boundary of Texas. If the position be indeed correct, and the United States have the right to all the country on this side of the del Norte we are ready to go as far as the farthest to protect and defend that right. If it be not correct—we will never countenance that party which places our country in the wrong. Truth, conscience, honor, patriotism itself forbid!

The Whigs are not backward in rescuing American lives from disgrace, no matter by what bungling policy or by what base design of men in power they may have been involved. In the actual conflict—under the "surlphurous canopy" of war—Americans know no party. They are brave; let them also be just. That bravery is never blessed by Heaven—and it surely never blesses man—which is exercised in the aggressive and unscrupulous spirit of conquest.

The "Union" thus sums up the statements and arguments of its article on the boundary:—"That Texas was ours by the treaty of 1803, and that its boundary extended to the del Norte, is proved by the concurrent testimony of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Adams, Pinkney, Benton, and Clay." Relying upon the superior means of information at command of the "Union," we admit the correctness of all this. But what does it prove?

In strengthening the concurrent testimony of these statesmen, the "Union" quotes from one of the able letters of Col. Benton, republished by himself in the Globe of the 4th of May, 1844: "The best and most numerous labors on the continental coast of the Gulf of Mexico lie between the Sabine and the mouth of the Rio del Norte. As a naval and commercial power, owning the great river which carries the commerce of an empire into the Gulf, we had the greatest need for these harbors. By the acquisition of Louisiana we obtained them; by the new boundary established on our southwest frontier in 1819 we gave them away." "Before the establishment of this boundary all the country to the west of the lower Mississippi quite to the Rio del Norte was ours."

We are sure we cannot say what degree of consideration was given by these Powers to this line of boundary, at the time of their recognition of Texan independence. We doubt whether they considered of it at all. But of this we are sure:—that line comprehends an immense extent of country where the foot of a republican Texan never trod, except at the peril of life, or as a prisoner of war. It comprehends a large number of Mexican towns, including Santa Fe, the capital of Northern Mexico, with a population of six thousand;—and embraces thousands of Mexican inhabitants, who are and ever have been, since its establishment, under the acknowledged, undoubted jurisdiction of the Government of Mexico, and no other.—Greensborough Patriot.

THE MEXICAN WAR. Additional Particulars of the Engagements of the 8th and 9th inst.

Galveston papers of the 15th instant, brought by the steamer Galveston at New Orleans, says the Mobile Advertiser, came to hand yesterday. In the Civilian we find a very full detail of the glorious actions of the 8th and 9th inst., furnished by an eye-witness, an actor in the scene, Captain Jas. T. Tod, late of the Texan navy. As the account is more clear and comprehensive than we have before given, we make the following extracts: Gen. Taylor arrived at Point Isabel on the 2d inst., with a part of his command, numbering 1800 men, to assist in placing the Point in a proper state of defence.—The works were completed on the 6th, and on the next day at 3 P. M., he took up his line of march for his camp opposite Matamoros, and came to a halt for the night at the water-hole, about 8 miles distant from Point Isabel. The next morning the spies and scouts came in and reported that the Mexican force, believed to be all their army, had taken up a position in the chapparal, about nine miles distant, and had thrown works across the road, which were well fortified with cannon.

Gen. Taylor sent back a part of his wagon train, as he could not well afford a sufficient guard to protect it all. His entire force consisted of 2,300 men. The Mexican force, from all that could be learned by our scouts and spies for some days previously, was believed to be between 5,000 and 6,000 men; 1,800 of which was composed of cavalry and Rancheros, the latter being considered the most effective troops in Mexico.

Gen. Taylor put his army in motion, and on reaching the enemy it was found they were occupying the chapparal, and had thrown up breastworks along the road, with several pieces of cannon planted so as to sweep the road. No time was lost in arranging the order of battle, and advancing upon the enemy, the latter opening their artillery, which was speedily returned by our forces. The Mexican cavalry undertook to charge our lines under cover of the smoke, the 5th Regiment of Infantry having formed a square, received them with a deadly fire. Major Ringgold and Capt. Duncan's corps of Flying Artillery opened their fire and mowed them down in solid columns, which made them stagger and fall back in confusion to their lines.

The battle was now principally confined to artillery on both sides. The Mexicans aiming too high, which prevented much loss on our side. Our Flying Artillery was very destructive to the hopes of the enemy, the rapidity and despatch with which it was brought to bear on different points of the enemy's line created great havoc. Major Ringgold received a shot through both thighs, killing his horse under him. Capt. Page had his lower jaw shot off.

The cannonading continued from about 3 p. m. until sundown, and could be heard distinctly at Point Isabel. The Mexicans retreated and left one piece of cannon on the field. Several prisoners were taken. The latter were asked why their cavalry did not charge? They answered it was impossible to get them to do so after the first repulse, the firing was too hot, the men could not be kept to their arms, but would break and run; the order to charge was repeatedly given; a few of the cavalry would advance, but not finding themselves supported by their comrades, would fall back again to the main body. They stated that one of the officers of the cavalry was so indignant at his corps disobeying his orders, that he rushed in among them, cutting right and left, and that one of his men drew a pistol and shot him dead.

We lost some 45 in killed and wounded. They left about 150 in killed and wounded on the field, a large portion of the latter being carried off. The next morning Gen. Taylor left with the train a few pieces of artillery and a guard to protect themselves and the wounded, and pushed on with 1800 effective men in pursuit of the enemy. He found they had retreated some eight miles off and taken up a position a few miles below the camp, opposite Matamoros, occupying some of the trenches which had been thrown up by our forces previous to their marching to Point Isabel. The battle commenced by heavy cannonading on both sides. Gen. Taylor, in

passing his lines, accosted Capt. May of the 2d Dragoons, and told him: "Your regiment has never done anything yet—you must take that battery." He said nothing, but turned to his command and said—"we must take that battery—follow!" He made a charge with three companies—at least, with the remainder of three companies—supported by the 5th and 8th regiments of Infantry. They cleared the breastwork, rode over the battery, wheeled and came through the enemy's line, whilst the fire of the Infantry was so deadly in its effect as to carry all before it.—Capt. May made a cut at an officer as he charged through—on his return he found him standing between the wheels of a cannon—fighting like a hero. He ordered him to surrender. He was asked if he was an officer? Capt. May answered in the affirmative, when he presented his sword, remarking—"You receive Gen. Vega a prisoner of war."

Capt. May gave him in charge of one of his sergeants who had lost his horse in the charge, ordering him to conduct him to Gen. T. out of the lines.

Lieut. Inge, a brave and gallant officer of the 2d Dragoons, fell in this charge.—A complete panic and route ensued on the part of the enemy; they fled in every direction for the river; many were drowned in attempting to cross. Eight pieces of artillery fell into our hands, and an innumerable quantity of small arms, munitions, baggage, camp-equipage, military chest, containing a large quantity of gold; Gen. Arista's carriage, baggage, portfolio, with all his official correspondence with the government, with full plans of the campaign, and instructions from the Mexican Government, authorizing him to send Gen. Taylor and his army, when taken prisoners, to the city of Mexico—to treat Gen. Taylor and his officers with such care and attention as becomes the magnanimity of the great Mexican nation.—Four or five hundred head of mules, &c., with a large number of stands of colors.

The plan of the campaign and the instructions from his government, ordered him to take possession of Point Isabel; this was to be the brief act of hostility; he was to fortify it as strongly as possible. He was likewise ordered to take possession of the mouth of the river and fortify it at once.

After the route Gen. Taylor despatched Capt. Carr of the Dragoons, with a guard, to convey the intelligence. They bore so many of the enemy's colors with them, that they presumed in the Fort that it was the Mexicans coming up to make an attack, it being dark, and the Fort fired upon them, but fortunately injured no one.

Some 400 Mexicans were buried at our last accounts, but doubtless hundreds are lying dead in the chapparal and in the river. Capt. Walker and his Rangers pursued up the enemy, and gave a parting salutation to many in the river. We lost in killed and wounded about 62. Captain Hooe lost an arm.

Capt. May's charge is spoken of as being one of those splendid efforts which would have adorned the brightest feather in the plume of Murat in the palmist days of his glory. It cost him some 18 horses with a few of the gallant riders.

This victory entirely belongs to the U. States Army, no volunteers having arrived in time to share in the honors of the day. It will convince our country that West Point affords the material of exhibiting the courage and bravery of the American soldier!

I trust we will hear no more of dismounting our gallant Dragoons—the affair of the 9th shows them to be the arteries of our defence.

The conduct on both occasions, speaks highly to the credit of their gallant commander, that old "war boss" and time-worn veteran, Col. Twiggs. Magnificent Wesleyan Church.—A correspondent of the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, gives an account of a new church recently built by the Wesleyans in Montreal. He says it is a building more costly and magnificent than any in the world belonging to that denomination of Christians. This imposing structure, is of the Gothic order of architecture, but in the opinion of the writer, is not equal in beauty or convenience to the Charles-street Church in Baltimore. On the occasion of its dedication, Lord Metcalf, the governor-in-chief, was present.

DIGNIFIED CONDUCT.

ELIZA EMBERT, a young Lady, resolutely discarded a gentleman to whom she was to have been married, because he ridiculed Religion. Having given him a gentle reproof, he replied, "that a man of the world would not be so old-fashioned, as to regard God and religion." Eliza started—but on recovering herself, said, "from this moment when I discover that you do not respect Religion, I cease to be yours. He who does not love and honor God, can never love his wife constantly and sincerely."

A gallant wag was lately sitting beside his beloved, and being unable to think of anything else, turned to her and asked her why she was like a tailor. "Don't know," said she with a pouting lip, "unless it is because I am sitting by a goose."

[From the N. O. Bulletin—Extra 19th inst., 10 A. M.] TWO DAYS LATER FROM THE ARMY. An Expedition Started to Attack Barrita—Gen. Taylor Preparing to Cross the Rio Grande, and Attack and Occupy Matamoros.

The steamer James L. Day, Capt. Griffin, arrived this morning from the Brazos St. Jago, which place she left on the 16th inst., bringing intelligence two days later than that by the Galveson.

The news is important! Capt. Griffin informs us that General Taylor left Point Isabel on the morning of the 13th, with about two hundred men, and a supply of provisions for the army at the camp. After proceeding a short distance, however, he deemed it expedient to return and increase his escort, and take with him a large quantity of supplies. He did so, and took up his march again for the camp, on the morning of the 14th, with from six to eight hundred men, a park of artillery, and about two hundred and fifty wagons. He was met about midway between Point Isabel and the camp, late on the evening of the 15th. Up to that time he had not met the enemy, nor was it anticipated that he would encounter opposition, as the general impression was that the enemy had retreated from our soil, immediately after their disastrous defeat on the 9th and 10th and sought safety on the west bank of the Rio Grande.

While General Taylor was at Point Isabel he received intelligence that the Mexicans were gathering in large numbers at Barrita, a Mexican town immediately on the bank of the Rio Grande. On being thus informed, he ordered the two companies of Louisiana Volunteers, under Captains Desha and Stockton, and a detachment of United States Infantry, numbering in all, regulars and volunteers, about one thousand men, composed entirely of Infantry, to proceed to the attack of that town.

These troops embarked on the morning of the 15th, on the steamers Neva, Leo and Cincinnati, and were landed at the Brassos at 1 P. M., and immediately marched for the Rio Grande; the steamers being ordered to ascend the river and transport the troops and their ammunition across. Commodore Connor with his whole squadron, consisting of the steam frigate Mississippi, the frigates Cumberland, Raritan and Potomac, sloop Mary, the brig Lawrence, and the schr. Santa Anna, at the same time weighed anchor and sailed for the mouth of the river, intending to assist the troops in crossing with his boats, and to aid in the attack with his men.—The expedition was under the command of Col. Wilson.

General Taylor intended to cross the river at or near his camp, to take possession of Matamoros, and the expedition was ordered for the double purpose of dislodging the Mexicans from their position at Barrita, and assisting Gen. Taylor in occupying Matamoros, should he be opposed.

Gen. Taylor intended to cross the river on a bridge formed of the boxes of his wagons caulked tight. For this purpose he had ordered all the oakum at Point Isabel to be sent up to the camp.

Capt. Griffin heard nothing whatever of the report that Paredes was marching to Matamoros with 15,000 men, nor was there any certainty that the Mexicans had been reinforced; the general opinion, however, was that they had been.

There were none of the enemy between the camp and Point Isabel; if any remained on this side of the river they were above the camp.

The Volunteers taken out by the Jas. L. Day were all landed in safety on the 4th. A steamer, supposed to be the New York, was seen standing in for the Brassos as the Day came up.

The Telegraph arrived there in about 36 hours after the Day. Capt. Griffin left Point Isabel at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 16th, and got under way at 1 P. M.

From the N. O. Daily Tropic, 22d inst.

LATER FROM THE ARMY.

Arrival of the Steamship Alabama.

The Steam Ship Alabama, Capt. Winkle, arrived this morning about 2 o'clock, reports having left Brazos Santiago on Tuesday Evening, 5 o'clock, P. M. The news at the Point (official) had arrived, that Gen. Wilson, with four companies of Regulars, and three companies of the Alabama Volunteers had taken Barrita without opposition. Gen. Taylor was to cross the Rio Grande to take Matamoros on Monday morning. Having heard no cannonading at the point, it was the universal opinion there that the Mexicans had evacuated the town. Gen. Smith's command was on their way, had commenced their line of march, and advance up the river on the Mexican side. Col. Marks and Walton's Regiment were complete, the Sea having arrived the morning of our departure. Officers and men all well and in fine spirits.

The officers wounded in the late battle are doing well. Capt. Aulick, of the frigate Potomac, commanding the 500 seamen, had proceeded up the Rio Grande.

It was reported at Point Isabel, on the morning of the 9th, that 2000 Mexicans were seen marching out of Matamoros for the interior, literally in a state of starvation.

From the Greensborough Patriot.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

GREENSBOROUGH, N. C., May 19, 1846.

A call having been previously made, a large meeting of citizens of Guilford held in the courthouse this day. On motion of Ralph Gorrell, Esq., Morehead was called to the chair. Peter Adams and M. S. Sherwood were requested to act as Secretaries.

On taking the Chair Gov. Morehead proceeded to explain what he understood to be the object of the meeting, reviewing in a clear and forcible manner some of the acts of the present Administration, referring particularly to the recent passage of the Sub-Treasury bill by the lower House of Congress, showing the injurious tendency such a measure would inevitably have upon the business and prosperity of the country, the effects of which would be bad enough in time of peace, but be greatly aggravated in a state of war. He spoke of the existing war with Mexico, and condemned most unequivocally the policy of the President in bringing this war; but none would be more anxious to sustain the President than himself, prosecuting this war now we had entered into it with vigor and energy, might be brought to a speedy and honorable termination. The friends of the President had delighted to dub him "Hickory," but it is to be feared that before his administration terminated the country will learn from sad experience that their young Hickory is not a green sprout—noting but a *Palk Staff*.

Mr. Morehead referred to Mr. Webster and his policy in the Treaty of Washington, in connection with the late disgraceful negotiation with the late disgraced President, on him simultaneously made by Mr. Morehead, in the Senate, and Mr. C. J. Ingham in the House of Representatives. It was unnecessary in this community to refer to Mr. Webster from the vile calumnies such men as Dickinson and C. J. Ingham. Such personal attacks were beneath the dignity of a statesman or a high politician, and could only spring from outpourings of an envious or malicious spirit. The treaty had undergone the ordeal of the Senate and received the sanction of Whig and Democrat, with unanimity; had been approved by a Democratic President, and the same large had acquiesced in the whole proceedings; then why bring up the subject, if it was not to gratify the malicious feelings of those who can never appreciate Mr. Webster's well earned fame as a man and diplomatist, and whose name in this treaty was calculated to render more dear to the American people. The American Minister had held his office if he had not outgeneraled Lord Ashurst, and it was to be regretted that Mexican difficulties are not in the management of such men as Daniel Webster, because if such were the fact, instead of the most miserable, bungling, botching which has plunged us in a war, the honor of a nation would have been preserved, and the blood and treasure of its citizens saved. While approved of many of the acts of the present Administration, Gov. M. spoke in warm terms of probatation in reference to his refusal to divulge the secrets of the State Government. A different course would have been the subversion of the very principle which the Secret Service fund was established. Gov. M. was glad that a meeting had been called in the patriotic county of Guilford, the ground of one of our revolutionary struggles for liberty. Let the people in primary meetings, speak too in public, and if they turn a deaf ear to the ballot-box is the remedy. Let them cheer throughout the house.

On motion of John A. Gilmer, Esq., chairman was requested to appoint a committee of three, to draft resolutions relative of the sense of this meeting on the present state of the country, and allowing gentlemen were named to constitute said committee, viz: John A. Gilmer, Esq., Ralph Gorrell and Peter Adams, Esq. The committee were retiring to the duties assigned them, when Mr. Morehead, Esq., was loudly called for from all parts of the house to address the meeting and was proceeding in an interesting speech when the committee were called. We could not do anything but attend to his remarks, and therefore we undertake a synopsis of them.

The Committee, through Mr. Gilmer, reported the following preamble and resolutions, which, received the hearty assent of every Whig present: WHEREAS, the ruling party in Congress of the United States have neglected in their late movements a determination to fasten upon the country that measure, called the Sub-Treasury bill, the passage of which would have the effect of the condemnation of the country, as made known in the election of 1844, when the question was fairly passed by them.

And whereas, as a portion of the men of the U. S., we desire to make our sentiments: 1st. Therefore, Resolved: That we create the unyielding disposition of the majority in the House of Representatives, and their manifest purpose, to transfer the foot of the will of the people so expressed.

2d. Resolved. That in the opinion of this meeting, the adoption of the Sub-Treasury bill will be ruinous to the interests of the country, and will parallel distress and bankruptcy, all classes of society by the complete overthrow of the credit system, and our Banking Institutions;—that it will add greatly to the expenses of the National Government, and endanger the of the public funds.

3d. Resolved. That it is the opinion of this meeting that if the establishment of the Sub-Treasury bill, passed by the House of Representatives, become the law of the land, it will