

JOHN C. FREMONT.

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heat of the weather and scarcity of water, it being the middle of the dry season and the distance driven about five hundred miles, and all through a wild country.

H. B. EDWARDS.

WASHINGTON, *January 24, 1852.*

This will certify that I, Lieutenant E. F. Beale, of the United States navy, was in California mostly since 1845, and especially in 1850 and 1851, and was part of that time engaged in business for Commodore Stockton and Mr. Aspinwall, at the Mariposas mines, and bought beef for their establishment, and usually paid from twenty to thirty cents a pound for it, and never less than twenty cents, and that for beef all round, and for ready money always. I also certify that I have read the statement in this case made by Mr. Henry Edwards, and am acquainted with almost every fact mentioned by him, and know it to be true. I also know that Mr. Barbour, the commissioner, was importunate with Colonel Frémont for a prompt delivery of cattle early in June, to keep the Indians friendly and peaceable, and that Colonel Frémont made the greatest exertions, and at great loss and expense, to comply punctually: and when he found he could not get the whole drove to the appointed place on the appointed day, had a lot of about seventy-five head bought from the nearest settlement, at a great price, fifty dollars a head, and delivered in advance, and so satisfied the Indians, who were becoming very restless and suspicious. I also believe that the Indians thus supplied by the contract with Colonel Frémont are the only ones now peaceably disposed towards the United States.

I also saw Colonel Barbour, the commissioner, and Colonel Frémont often together during the time of the existing of this contract, and know that he, the commissioner, constantly promised to have the treaties at Washington early, and that he would bring them on, and gave that as a reason why he would not wait to hold treaties with the Indians to the south, though Colonel Frémont urged him to do so, as the only means of keeping the southern Indians peaceable and quiet.

But he persisted in his determination and came off in the steamer of October 4, and has not yet arrived, to my knowledge. I also know that Colonel Frémont negotiated a part of the drafts he gave him to pay for the cattle he had bought, making the negotiation on the exorbitant terms usual in California, and in the full confidence that the treaties would be here by the meeting of Congress, and they are not yet here.

EDWARD F. BEALE.

*United States Navy.*

WASHINGTON CITY, *January 24, 1852.*

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