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California Star, Volume 1, Number 32, 14 August 1847 — [For the California Star.] [ARTICLE]

[For the California Star.]

MR. ROBERT LIVERMORE,

SIR:—Allow me through the medium of the columns which have been kindly opened to me, to express my sincere thanks for your kind care and attention to me during my brief stay beneath your roof, after having been driven from my post by the hostile Indians of the San Joaquin valley. When I arrived at your rancho, Sir, to say the least, I was truly in a distressed state; it was perceived, and no sooner perceived than relieved, and every thing done to contribute to my comfort. It gives me no little pleasure, (and I hope the method not offensive to yourself,) to make known to the world your true character—liberal, generous and kind, I may say to a fault.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

B. K. THOMPSON.

August 5, 1847.

[T] The rapidity with which the Mechanical processes are carried on, at the present day, is astonishing. Some time ago, if half the stories now afloat, were told, the teller would have been considered a full descendant of Gulliver or Sinbad, but now it is hardly reasonable to entertain mistrust, for however improbable, at the first glance, a narration may appear, it will be hard indeed, and somewhat unusual, "but that time gives it proof." For instance, what would our elders, years ago, have said to such a narrative as this?

"The Passport is the name of a new iron steamer which was launched at Kingston, Canada, on the 16th ult., to be commanded by Capt. Bowen. Her length is 180 feet, and depth of hold 8 1-2 feet—to be propelled by a horizontal engine of 180 horse power. The Kingston Argus states that on the first of March, every particle of her was in the ore in the bowels of the earth, in Scotland, now she floats, a thing of life, upon the broad waters of the Ontario, and will next May be fully completed, and stemming the waters of the mighty St. Lawrence.—*U. S. Gazette.*

Return of the killed, wounded and missing of the Army of Occupation in the action of the 22d and 23d of February, 1847, at Buena Vista, Mexico.

Head Quarters, Army of Occupation, Agua Nueva, Mexico, March 6th 1847.

Z. TAYLOR, Maj. General, U. S. A. Com'dg.

W. W. S. BLISS, Ass't. Adj't. General.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CAL. STAR.

SIR: You will accept in the commencement an apology (for I deem one-required) for the attempt I am about to make to reply to a former correspondent of your paper, as I am satisfied that the honor of a friend demands it, but that I am altogether unsuited for the task. This correspondent is no less a personage than "*Agricola*," and the article to which I allude and would reply to appeared in the seventeenth number of your paper.

It does not appear the aim of "*Agricola*" to openly charge a party of foreigners, on their way to the valley of the San Joaquin, with dishonesty, but endeavors to throw a mist upon the character of a gentleman with whom he had frequent dealings, and ever found him honorable; and in a sly, serpent like way hold him up to censure and abuse. What Sir, can you suppose the man that headed the party, on their way to form a settlement on the Stanislaw river, could have thought upon reading the slanderous communication of this "*Agricola*?" Simply this, that he has no idea of the value of character, and his low contemptible article unworthy of reply, else Mr. A. would have been severely answered, and his charge refuted.

The facts are these. The party left the settlements with the avowed intention of exploring a portion of the wild country bordering on the rivers Stanislaw and Tawalmes, and if possible forming a settlement on the former stream. To ensure success one of the pack animals was used to carry a small amount of goods, as is customary with all adventurous parties among tribes of faithless Indians. They did not however succeed in forming this settlement, and a part of the company returned. Mr. "*Agricola*" has magnified their purposes into dishonorable intentions, and asserts that their visit was to aid and encourage the Indians in horse thieving; a charge as false and ungentlemanly as the most unprincipled Indian of the valley.

But one word to neighbor A. Could you, Sir, with less sordid motives win the esteem of your fellow citizens, and by acts of generosity, hospitality, and benevolence, place your name upon the list of *gentlemen*, then might you prate of honesty, and perhaps be less fearful of the "daring horse thief Indians." And could you restore the just dues of this latter simple minded class of beings, yet not so wholly destitute of feeling as you would wish to have believed, then I would predict the safety of your property, and consequently less dread of your untamed neighbors.

This reckless regard of character, so manifest in the writing of "*Agricola*" is only one instance out of many, which, were it necessary, I could adduce. Our countrymen are too prone to judge hastily, without knowledge of the judged, and much mischief is thereby occasioned. The names of "gambler," "drunkard," "unprincipled fellow," &c. &c. are too often bandied about by the ignorant, not from real malice, but from mere hearsay, and the effects are highly injurious to the person spoken of, as in our youthful country it becomes us to guard against the vicious, and be ever watchful of our associates.

I could extend these remarks but too much space I would not wish to occupy.

Yours &c.
R. T.

EXPRESS TO SANTA FE AND CALIFORNIA. The Government's agent, Major Fitzpatrick, we understand, has secured the service of Mr. Solomon Sublette to bear the Government's despatches to Santa Fe and California. Mr. Sublette is an experienced mountain man, has spent many years in the plains and with the Indians, and probably knows as much or more than any other man, of all the tribes between this and the Pacific. To his knowledge, he adds a complete acquaintance of the Indian character, and a fearlessness which no danger or peril can appal, and a physical capability to endure hunger and fatigue such as those familiar with a mountain life in the Indian country can only properly appreciate. He has undertaken the expedition at a season and under circumstances that appal the stoutest of the traders, and for a

consideration, that, to us, seems wholly inadequate to the service. That he will perform the trip successfully there is no doubt on the minds of those who know him. Mr. Fitzpatrick accompanies him to Fort Leavenworth, where all things necessary will be provided for the trip across the plains to Santa Fe. We are told that Mr. S. prefers going with a very small escort—not more than two or three persons. The party left this city for Fort Leavenworth yesterday morning. It is a trip, the season of the year considered, which would appal any one but such a man.—*St Louis Republican.*

	Killed.						Wounded.													
	Colo.	Lt. Colo.	Adj'ts.	Capt's.	Sub'ns.	Aggregate.	Brig. Gen'l's.	Colo.	Lt. Colo.	Majors.	Capt's.	Sub'ns.	Non Com'd. Off's, Mus's, &c	Aggregate.	Non Com'd. Off's, Mus's, &c	Com'd. Officers.	Non Com'd. Off's, Mus's, &c	Aggregate.		
Gen'l. Staff.				1		1	1					2		3			4	4		
1st. Dragoons.											1	6	1	7	1		6	7		
2d. Dragoons.											1	1	1	2	1		1	2		
3d. Artillery.						1						21	1	22	2	1	24	25		
4th. Artillery						5						20	1	21		1	25	26		
Mississippi Rifles.					2	38		1			3	51	5	56	2	7	91	98		
Kentucky Cavalry.			1			26					4	29	5	34		3	50	53		
Arkansas Do	1			1		15					1	31	1	32	4	6	55	61		
2d. Kentucky Foot.	1	1		1		41					3	54	3	57	1	6	96	102		
1st. Illinois Do.	1			1		26					2	16	2	18		5	42	47		
2d. Illinois Do.				1		38					2	69	6	75	3	16	110	126		
2d. Indiana Do.				2		29					2	63	8	71	4	11	96	107		
3d. Indiana Do.				1		8		1			2	53	3	56		4	61	65		
Co. of Texas Volunteers.					2	12					1	1	1	2	7	3	20	23		
	3	1	1	8	15	239	28	267	1	1	1	11	27	415	41	456	23	69	677	746