

California 111288

James Maguire
Wash. Mr 34

Statement of prices
of certain articles
in California

Rec. Mr 34

File

30
~~29~~ - der Herrick

Washington Nov 29th 1854.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit according to your Request, the following statement in regard to the prices in California, as far as came under my notice, in discharge of my duties.

I paid for horse hire from Marysville to Grays bar - horse & baggage 20 dol, ^{under} meals on same route 12 dol. For single, saddle horse in San Francisco 10 dol per day.

Only 1 or 2 years when I was in the country & sold high just at that time, I think it cost me 18 dol for the Steamboat fare I paid

no attention to it. Special Agent of the P. O. Dept. I travelled free in Mail boats. I am aware however when opposition is offered on the river the price sometimes is reasonable.

This seldom lasts beyond a week or so. Beavers brought over the Plains & pastured there for 2 or 3 months were worth from 150 to 200 dol per head in San Francisco. Genl Lane of Oregon & myself travelled with Mr Eddy who had followed driving cattle, for Miss-

for 10 years & he gave us general information from his experience, which I now quote. I think he told us he had some worth 150 dol at that time.

Horses sold high

When I was there and were scarce
as that. I made it my business to
look into this item particularly
being a horse man all my life
I never allow an opportunity to escape
when my curiosity can be gratified.
I seen draft horses from the Western
States sell at \$300 dol. a pair for
Carriage \$1500. Any good horse was
worth from 250 to 400 dol. The native
horse was sold from \$125 to 150 &
as high as 200. The latter was well
broken to the saddle and rather
a fancy horse.

Presuming these items
to embrace pretty much your enquiry
I shall not close by stating that
if you desire further information
I am at your service.

I have the honor
to be, Sir
Your Obedt Servt
James Maguire

Yours
Geo W Mansfield
Comdr. Indian Affairs
Albany

P.S. Mutton & Lamb I paid no
attention to their price but presume
like any other commodity of living the
price depended on the supply in market.
J M