

THE HUMBOLDT TIMES.

UNION, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1855.

THE YOSEMITE FALLS.—Near the head-waters of the Merced River, in Mariposa county, is one of the most remarkable objects in natural scenery in the world. It is a waterfall of immense height in the midst of the wildest scenery of the Sierra Nevada. A friend whose party was recently conducted by an Indian guide to the spot, says the *Pacific* has shown us a sketch which he took of the falls. A considerable stream, which in the winter is swollen to a torrent, dashes down a precipice almost perpendicularly, sixteen hundred feet, and afterwards the collected waters again fall in spray and foam, the depth of eight hundred feet.—*Times & Transcript*.

In the fall, or winter of 1852, we accompanied a party in pursuit of a band of Yosemite Indians, to and beyond the falls. We supposed the falls to be situated on the south or middle Fork of the Merced. Our party ascended the mountain at or near the falls, and at the time believed it to be as high as any within fifty miles. The lowest estimate made by our party of the altitude of the principal fall, was two thousand to twenty-five hundred feet. The stream at the head of the falls was about forty yards across, and eight or ten feet deep. Upon our return, the ground was covered with snow several feet deep, the stream was nearly frozen, the water falling in frozen flakes, which, with the immense number of rainbows, presented to us at the bottom of the falls, one of the most grandly sublime spectacles we ever witnessed.