



STAR & CALIFORNIAN.

SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY, DEC. 2, 1848.

For the Star & Californian.

JUBA RIVER GOLDMINES,
Nov. 8, 1843. }

MR. EDITOR:—Knowing from information the interest you take in the prosperity of California, I address this hasty communication to you for the purpose of placing before your readers some intelligence that may be interesting to them and to the public generally. I am one of the wagon party just arrived from Oregon; and the success of our new enterprise has been such as to afford us much gratification. You are no doubt aware of the fact, that our wagons were the first ever brought through from Oregon to this country, and that such a project has, until now, been considered impracticable. I came to Oregon in the fall of 1843, with the first wagons which penetrated to the Dalles, and have had the good fortune to be one of the first party that came with wagons from Oregon to California. When we were preparing to start, we were aware of the uncertain issue of the attempt, and we prepared ourselves to meet and overcome difficulties not impossible. Our train consisted of some 46 wagons, and about 150 men. We were well provided with provisions, and means of every kind necessary to enable us to accomplish the trip. We left Oregon City about the 10th of September and reached the valley of the Sacramento on the 25th October, seven miles from Capt. Peter Lawson's. We followed Applegate's Southern route from Fort Hall to Oregon until we came past the little Klamet lake. We then turned to the right, passing on the east side of New Year's lake, from which we bore south-east 40 miles to the Sacramento, laid down on most of the maps as Pitt river. At the point where we struck this stream, we came across a wagon trail made by a party of Immigrants from the United States, and conducted by Capt Lawson as pilot. They had passed about twenty-five days before us. We followed this trail until we overtook this party in the California mountains, some 40 miles from the Sacramento valley. They had passed the summit of the mountains some 35 miles, without having had to make the mark of an axe or spade. From the point at which we overtook the party the only obstruction to our passage down the mountain was fallen timber and loose rock upon the surface. Some ten or fifteen hands cut out the road in one day as far as the timber extended—say 15 miles—and did it as

Note: Juba River mentioned
is actually Yuba River

fast as the wagons could follow. The loose rock was then the only remaining obstruction, most of which we did not stop to remove, but made our way over them without any greater difficulty than breaking down some two wagons out of fifty. Some day or two before we overtook the emigrant party about one-half of them had abandoned their wagons, and started with their baggage packed upon their oxen. We found the pass through the mountains one of the finest natural passes in the world. The ascent and descent are very gradual, and with a little labor an excellent road could be made. All the labor we bestowed upon the road could have been performed by about four men in the space of three or four days. The worst part of the road from Oregon to California is the pass through the Umpqua mountains, called the Kanyan, on Applegate's route.—We found the whole route very well supplied with grass and water. We had one drive of 30 miles to make without water—one of 20 and one of 18. Our party were exceedingly fortunate. We lost very few animals—most, if not all of which, strayed off—and met with no material accident on the way, except one young man was accidentally slightly wounded in the hand with a gun, and another was shot through the wrist with an Indian arrow, in a little skirmish at New Year lake. The route for wagons is now open, and the approaching year will witness the passage of many wagons from Oregon to California.—This route must prove of great benefit to parties of emigrants from Oregon and from the United States.

Yours Respectfully,
PETER H. BURNETT.

WINTER IN THE MOUNTAINS.—We are glad to learn that many of our citizens have abandoned the unwise project of wintering in the mountains and returned, or preparing to return, to their homes. We are every day more convinced of the error those already encamped in the several mountain 'diggings' have committed, and our fears are for even life, in many places, as the forfeit of imprudence. We conversed with a gentleman recently arrived from the mines, and who has pretty accurately calculated the chances favorable to a stay in that region this winter—who is prepared to speak influentially in the matter, and from very fair experience. The prospect is a frosty and a starving one. It does not convey to our understanding one inducement to remain upon the mining ground this winter, or encourage any attempt to dig for gold after the setting in of the rains. The stuff will not be taken in quantity sufficient to render desirable a residence in the mountains during the season, and as for establishing a rightful claim to any particular section by precedence, many may make a grand and glorious *faux pas* in the business, let us observe.

At the 'dry diggings,' where most are located, snow, it is said, falls to the depth of two and three feet. The weather is extremely cold, and the various streams intersecting the mountains become swollen and rendered almost impassable. This will prevent travelling, and we hope no camp in that remote section is destitute of its winter supply of provisions. Juba and Feather rivers, whereon a number have collected, present similar disadvantages to the miner, and urge upon him strongly the better policy of keeping quiet until the return of spring. To imperil health in the manner purposed by many, is scarcely wisdom. The placera is ample to satisfy the grasping mind of the million, and plenty of unworked ground invites labor. Don't be in a hurry, Gents, there's a few more left of the same sort."

Peter Barnett brought the first wagon train to California from Oregon. In 1850 he was elected the first Governor of California. He resigned after a year. Some of the men from this wagon train are suspected of being the founders of Oregon Gulch in Butte County. Oregon City in Oregon Gulch was named after Oregon City in Oregon.

Late from the Mines.—Our friend Captain C. S. Tuttle, has just come down from his tour through the mountains. He has visited Morris' Ravine, Long's Bar, Oregon Gulch, Rich Gulch, (a new place lately found,) and Butte Creek, and reports that the miners are returning to the above places in large numbers from Scott's River, and the adjacent countries. Captain Tuttle tells us that none make less than from *five dollars to an ounce a day*; and the miners are quite disposed to remain in the above place, and satisfied with their remuneration, perfectly tired of hunting about in search of "spots" and finding nothing; and the sooner the miners in general come to this conclusion, the better it will be for the country at large.

A big lump from Oregon Gulch.—Mr. Charles A. Simmons, just down from Oregon Gulch, informs us that on Monday last, a lump weighing 15 ounces, was found there. The lump was weighed in Jas. Hooper's store, and it was of the finest quality of gold. The miners since the last rain Mr. Simmons informs us, have been doing better than the fore part of the winter.

Butte Creek, near Reeves' Bar.—J. Menden Hall, Esq., of Butte Hill, paid us a visit yesterday, and reports that a week or so ago, within a short distance of his store, a lump weighing thirty-four dollars and fifty cents was found entirely free from quartz, and of the purest gold. Mr. Menden Hall informs us that miners are doing much better than they did during the winter. Mr. Runkin's party tested their wing dam, and the prospect averaged two dollars to the pan of twenty-four pans taken out of the water of the depth of ten inches.

MARYSVILLE HERALD.

6-19-1851


OREGON GULCH, FEATHER RIVER.—
We learn from Mr. Charles A. Sim-
mons, who has just arrived from Ore-
gon Gulch, that Capt. Williams, "a jol-
ly old tar," took out a piece of gold last
Friday weighing two hundred and for-
ty dollars. A Mr. Tubbs and partner
took out one hundred dollars on Mon-
day morning. Dr. Evans and his com-
pany of six men are doing a splendid
business. In fact, there is scarcely a
miner that has worked in this gulch
steadily for three or four months but
has realized a *Pile!*

Daily Alta California

5-22-1852

Colusa Correspondence.

COLUSA, May, 1852.



The town of Colusa already begins to wear an aspect of no mean importance; buildings are going up on every side, and the incessant sound of the hammer, though not at all times pleasant, is extremely cheering here, as in all new countries. The surrounding country is being rapidly settled up; claims are in progress of improvement on both sides of the river, and every thing is assuming a tangible appearance which may fairly encourage the hope that at no distant day a railroad will connect this place with Shasta City. A road is in progress for the convenience of trains from Oregon Gulch, Bidwell's Bar and the Upper Feather River mines, and our townsmen are making all the necessary provision for the establishment of such other roads as may conduce to the accommodation of those who find it expedient to resort here for their stores, &c.

The town appears to grow with almost unprecedented rapidity, and it is very evident that unless some extraordinary accident occur reversing the order of nature, whereby the tides be caused to extend themselves up to the Red Bluffs, and by this means flood the Sacramento sufficiently to float boats clear of the impediments which at present most effectually obstruct the navigation beyond this point, except during the continuance of a flood, this town must very shortly become a city.

We are surrounded by one of the most magnificent champagnes in California, consisting of the vast plain which extends from the Butte Mountains on the east, to the coast range on the west of us, and affording ample room for the most extensive farming operation. A soil peculiarly adapted to the growth of all those productions which are usually found in this latitude, and an inexhaustible range for stock of every description.

At this period of the year the eye becomes entranced with the superlative aspect of this blooming region, which appears one vast flower-garden, only varying in hue according to the variety of tint identical to its delicate flowery carpet. The fair geranium rears its timid head from amid the verdant green of the native oat, and as if to give variety to that green, the fringes of which are composed of the golden embroidery of circling beds of marigold. Nature still holds this glorious clime in her fond embrace, and lavishes her choicest ornaments upon its smiling face, inviting man to come and enjoy.

To merchants who have an idea of Colusa, I would say, there is room; this point presents great inducements. We wish that more business men should settle here, and will welcome any and every gentleman who comes among us for the purposes of business. Colusa is now and must long continue to be the head of navigation on the Sacramento; therefore rest satisfied on that score; and opportunities of trade increase daily.

T. A. H.

Butte Record 11-19-1853

EVERTS, SNELL & CO'S
Feather River Express.

Connecting with ADAMS & CO.

We would respectfully inform the public that we are now enabled to forward
TREASURE, VALUABLE PACKAGES, LETTERS,
ETC, ETC.

With unrivalled despatch and security, and upon the most reasonable terms, to and from the following places, viz;

American Valley,	Wyandott,
Chandlerville,	Bidwell's Bar
Gibsonville,	Evansville,
Hopkins' Creek,	Hansonville,
Morris' Ravine,	Long's Bar,
Onion Valley,	Nelson's Creek,
Port Wine Diggings,	Poorman's Creek,
Spring Valley,	Rich Bar, Middle Fork,
Sears' Diggings,	Stringtown,
White Rock,	Smith's Bar, N Fork,
Barker's Ranch,	City of '76,
Canyon Creek,	Butte Creek,
Grass Valley,	Forbestown,
Jamison's Creek,	Honcut City,
Natchez,	Lexington House,
Oregon Gulch;	Ophir,
Rich Bar, North Fork,	Pine Grove,
Strawberry Valley,	Rush Creek, S. Flat,
Spanish Ranch,	St. Louis,

Collections, orders, etc., attended to with promptness and fidelity. SAFFORD & KERBY agents. EVERETT, SNELL & CO. Nov 19.

BUTTE RECORD.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1853.

NOTICE.--As the names of Messrs. Decourcey and Hall have frequently been mentioned by the press as being connected with this paper, or this Office, we deem it an act of right and justice to ourselves, to state that neither of those Gentlemen ever was, and in all probability neither of them ever will be concerned in this Office, we mention this as a matter of business, not to do injustice to either of the above named Gentlemen.

POST OFFICE AT OREGON GULCH

Having just returned from a tour through the above district, we feel bound to let it be known through our columns, to the Post Office Department, that the inhabitants in that region have been for over a year using every exertion to have an office established there, but so far their wants have not been heeded, we see no good reason why they should not be entitled to one. as well as other mining localities similarly situated, they propose to have it at or near Hoopers or what is now called Simmonses store, that being the most central point for a large extent of thickly settled country, as it now is, they say that although not fifty miles from Marysville that it often takes a month and then costs from one to two dollars to get each letter, will those whose business it is remedy this matter.

Butte Record 12-10-1853

SOUTH FORK OF FEATHER RIVER.—The miners all along on this stream are waiting patiently for water. The diggings are generally very rich, particularly in the vicinity of Stringtown, a thriving little town six miles from this place, containing several substantial hotels, stores, &c., and possessing one of the most convenient and safe ferries in the country. If a sufficient quantity of water falls this winter, there will be an immense amount of gold taken out. Oregon City, one mile to the northeast of Stringtown, promises a rich harvest to the miner. The flourishing town of Enterprise, one mile above the latter place, has just sprung up, and extensive preparations are being made for working the banks, which are exceedingly rich. The cry from all sides is, water! water!! If the season should continue dry, the effect will be disastrous in the extreme.

Evening



Bulletin.

Daily Evening Bulletin.

JAMES KING OF WM., EDITOR.

Agents.

G. I. LITTLE.....	Sacramento City
C. O. BURTON.....	Stockton
CANNADAY & COOK.....	Sonora
CANNADAY & COOK.....	Columbia
W. J. FORCE & CO.....	Marysville
J. W. SANBORN.....	Benicia
E. E. BALL.....	Vallejo
RHODES & WHITNEY.....	Weaverville
RHODES & WHITNEY.....	Shasta
J. H. WATSON.....	Oroville, Butte Co.
S. GUTHRIE.....	Mokelumne Hill
G. D. GOOKIN.....	Jamestown
S. W. LANGTON.....	Downsville
ELLIOT REED.....	San Jose
E. W. GOODRICH.....	Red Bluff
S. C. HAYDON.....	Petaluma

VOL. 1.

SAN FRANCISCO, THURSDAY EVENING, JAN. 10, 1856.

NO. 79.

For the Evening Bulletin.

OREGON CITY, Butte Co., Jan. 5, 1856.

DEAR BULLETIN:—Time has reversed his hour-glass and changed the figures for another year.

As the venerable president of the scythe and time-piece has full employment for all his leisure hours, and at this moment may be "keeping a sharp look-out" for his annual sacrifice of victims, let us indulge the hope that you and I and all the readers of the *Bulletin*, if not overlooked, may at least be found "doing our duty," that we may look him steadfastly in the countenance, and without fear or shame say with reverence.

"Thy will be done."

It is of lesser importance to live than to live worthily.

While some are looking over their back accounts with that gentleman, with your permission we will start upon an excursion to Table Mountain and the surrounding country. Leaving Oroville let us cross Feather River and ascend by a good and gradual road to the table land above, upon which is situated a small town known as Thompson's Flat. This is just at the southwestern base of Table Mountain. Around you are cabins, and long-toms, and sluices, and reservoirs, and shafts, and ditches. Here there are tools, there lie large heaps of "pay dirt," that during the summer months have been drifted out. Smoke is curling from the chimney top of the miner's humble home—yet it is day-time—the busy pick or shovel, tom or sluice, are nowhere seen, and wherefore? Simply because the elements are dry and the ditches ditto, and without water the miner is in many respects like the "Ancient Mariner,"

"Day after day, day after day,
We stuck—nor voice nor motion—
As idle as a painted ship
Upon a painted ocean."

This long drought is very discouraging, but they nobly brave the present and hope in the future.

Now let us climb that frowning mass before us, and when we reach its summit you will say it is rightly named "Table Mountain." It makes you puff, eh? When on its top, the sight of the outspreading valley of the Sacramento, and the snow-covered peaks of the distant mountains, will well repay you. Now look around—is it not beautiful? Let us cross the mountain northerly, and at the head of Morris' Ravine—and between Table Mountain (for a deep hollow divides it) we see the little Dutch settlement of "Sebastopol." Winding on in the distance like a huge serpent, is the picturesque and silvery waters of Feather river. But let us not tarry.

After a luncheon at friend Smith's, let us pass up the river a couple of miles to Long's Bar, and, taking up Oregon Gulch, we shall be satisfied that one may easily know a Frenchman's cabin by the number of dogs, a Mexican's or Chilean's by its being no cabin at all; a German's by a sluice-box or cradle, with the ends knocked out for a chimney; and a Chinaman's by the chopstick and guttural clatter of their tongues. But if you see a neat, trim, sail-cloth covered cabin, its inmates are almost sure to be New Englanders. Upon this gulch is the famous Columbia quartz lead that gives the most substantial of all proofs—the "oro"—that it is a fortune to its owners.

About three miles above we reach the head of this gulch, and the social and pleasant little village named "Oregon City." Within six months about forty families have been added to its industrious population, and during the last five weeks eleven "nativo Californians" have made their advent. One of the ladies holding up a little "bantling," inquired, with maternal pride, and in California phraseology: "Don't you think this a fine 'specimen,' sir?" Of course I did. These, Mr. Editor, are the great "civilizers" of this young State.

Three miles further on we reach "Cherokee Flat." It is very dry, indeed. Here there is a little settlement, containing several families, a number of neat cabins, a fine new store, a bowling alley, and a boarding house where they serve up excellent meals. But I had a villainous bed, with my boots for a pillow; how many there were sleeping in the same room I know not: there were *ten* at our end of it. Being very cold, I froze instead of slept, and prayed for the morning.

Now let us go down the hill to Spring Valley, as it will do you good by contrast. Gladness is gushing from the miner's hearts—for *they have water*, and water gives smiles to the countenance, brightness to the eyes, sunshine to the heart—it is oil to the joints, marrow to the bones, strength to the limbs, vigor unto manhood. No wonder then that the pick flies quick and the shovel constantly, for so long as water runs gurgling and laughing through the sluice there is music in the sound that tells him of the bank that never "stops payment," and of the merry chink of gold—bright gold—that buys comforts for his loving wife, clothing and education for his children, and makes the long, long day of clouds and sadness in California to close with a glowing and glorious sunset. That this may be the lot of every industrious man, be he merchant, miner or anything else, is the prayer of,

Yours, very truly,

SLEEPY JOE.

Sacramento Daily Union

Jan 29, 1856

MINING IN BUTTE COUNTY.—The following items are extracted from the *Butte Record* :

SUCKER RUN DITCH.—We learn from Deputy Sheriff McLaughlin that this Ditch is nearly completed, and will soon be in successful operation, The length of the Ditch is seven miles, its width is six feet on the top, and two at the bottom, with a depth of three feet. It will furnish water the year round for the rich diggings in the vicinity of Kanaka Peak and Oregon Gulch. The cost of the Ditch is \$10,000, and is owned by Messrs. Hardenburg, Foster, Williams and others. There is quite a settlement springing up in that vicinity, consisting of stores and public houses—among which are those of Messrs. Moore, Turner, and our old friend Gove. The diggings in this locality are said to be extensive, and the introduction of water will doubtless lead to further discoveries. The vicinity of Oregon Gulch has long furnished good pay to miners, when a supply of water could be procured. This deficiency will be supplied by the Ditch, and the locality must prove an important one.

A CHUNK.—A Mr. Dixon took out a twelve ounce chunk of gold on Brant's Ravine, near Kanaka Peak, one day last week.

QUARTZ OPERATIONS.

Briggs, Crawford & Co., a few days ago discovered a quartz ledge near Wilmot's Store in Oregon Gulch, which prospects very rich.— From ten buckets of decomposed quartz they panned out sixty-four dollars; they also found one specimen which contained forty dollars, and another containing eleven dollars. The company are erecting arastras.

Ab. Barton has sold his quartz lead near White & Nutter's store, to a company of Welchmen, who, after a thorough prospecting, find that it will pay well for working and are making preparations accordingly.

Captains Williams & Packard are opening a lead in Oregon Gulch, that they think very valuable. We have not learned any particulars.

Granger & Wilmot are erecting two arastras on a ledge they have recently opened near Oregon City.

Nesbit & Simmons, the proprietors of the old Buffalo ledge, are just completing four new arastras, and making preparations for extensive and vigorous operations. They have already fifteen men employed. This ledge has been worked the most of the time for two or three years, with good success.

The Louisiana ledge, now owned by Messrs. White & Nutter and Harmon Bay, Esq., is supposed to be paying largely. Two arastras are busy day and night.

There are two arastras at work on a ledge near Gassburg owned by Messrs. Derreck & Co., and Messrs. Wilson, Nesbit & Co., we do not know how profitably.

The Spring Valley Quartz Mining Company at present have the only Steam Quartz Mill in the county. They are running eight stamps which crush about twelve tons per day, and they are about building arastras to use in conjunction with them. This mill in '52, as did most other mills in that year, passed into the hands of the Sheriff, and has been idle until this spring. The present company are able and acquainted with the business, and will doubtless succeed. Their ledge (the old Illinois and Wisconsin) has had a great reputation which we expect it will sustain. It is extensive and is connected with the mill by railway. The facilities of this company for excavating, transporting, crushing and amalgamating, are not often surpassed.

In addition to those above mentioned, there is a quartz mill near Cherokee Flat, and the mill of Beaumont & Gummert on Oregon Gulch near Pninney's store, and the mills of Smith & Sparks, at Columbiaville, still nearer this place. The latter mills, under the management of its present energetic proprietors, have been the most successful of any in this vicinity. Their arastras (of which there are six) are the very perfection of this kind of machinery, their buildings and all the appurtenances are models of durability and utility, and the mules that turn their arastras appear larger, and the Chinamen that crush their quartz appear more robust than other people's mules and Chinamen. Their lead averages but about ten or twelve inches in thickness and is nearly perpendicular, and as can be imagined, its working is attended with immense expense. They have run a tunnel 300 feet in the most impenetrable slate, which has cost them a year's uninterrupted labor, and is not yet completed.

Other drifts and shafts have cost thousands, but as is the case with all quartz veins and with minerals universally, what they want in width they make up in richness; thus the most productive quartz ledges are not more than two or three feet in thickness, and there is a "lode" of tin in a mine in Cornwall only three inches thick, which is very valuable; and in the same vicinity there is a "lode" of copper only six inches thick, which is more profitable than one twenty feet in thickness in the same hill.

The quartz claims we have hastily referred to and several others that are already opened and being opened, which we have not mentioned at all, are situated around the base of table mountain, near each other, and but a few miles from this village. Quartz mining has been in disrepute in this vicinity, and it is only within the last year, and more particularly within the last six months, that attention has been paid to it. Within this time, several old ledges have been taken up and prospected, many new ones have been discovered, and others are eagerly sought after. In fact, no property stands higher in the market than a good quartz claim. It requires no great penetration to foresee the quartz which is so abundant in this vicinity, will be one of the principal sources of the future wealth and importance of Oroville, and of the wealth and importance of this county.

Butte Record

Aug 16, 1856

MISCELLANEOUS.

WHITE & NUTTER,
DEALERS IN
**GROCERIES, PROVISIONS
LIQUORS, & C., & C.**

THE UNDERSIGNED, in calling the attention of the public to their stock of Prime Goods, would avail themselves of this opportunity to return thanks for the very generous patronage they have received during the number of years they have been engaged in business at this place; and determined to merit a continuance of the same in future, offer at the lowest rates a large and well selected assortment of Groceries and Provisions, Liquors of a superior quality, Preserved Fruits, Miners' supplies, Hardware, Crockery and Glassware, &c., &c. Particular attention paid to filling and delivering miners' orders from a distance. The highest price paid for Gold Dust.

We shall also run a daily Letter and Package Express, between this place and Oroville.

Oregon City, July 1856.

WHITE & NUTTER,

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