



No. 2. MAGDALENA, LOWER CALA. NOV. 10TH, 1870. Vol. 1.

The
Lower Californian
published by the explor-
ing and colonizing expedition
of
The Lower California Co.,
at the
(projected)
City of Cortez
Magdalena Bay
Lower California.
November 10th, 1870.

The Pacific Mail Steamship "Colorado," Captain Parker commanding, from San Francisco November 3, arrived at this port on 7th, bringing mails and passengers for this colony and La Paz via this port: by this route reaching here in four days, and La Paz overland in seven days.

The schooner "Fanny A. Hyde," Worth, Master, which sailed from this port with passengers on the 14th October, arrived at San Francisco on the 2d inst. She is expected back here about the 10th December.

The Flagship "Ossipee" is reported to be refitting at Mare Island for a cruise and we hope soon again to have the pleasure of greeting her amiable and gallant officers, at her old station at "Man O' War Cove."

Sloop "Ballena," coastwise, arrived yesterday at Cayuco Cove. She reports as passing Magdalena, bound north, on the 7th, steamer "William Tabor" from New York to San Francisco. She has arrived on the coast at a most opportune time, to take advantage of the new commercial era which seems about to open in the coast business of the Pacific. The Anstralian trade, the business about to be developed by the opening of the Transcontinental RR over the 32d parallel, under its new organization, the great northern coasting trade, and last but far from least, the opening up of the vast agricultural, mineral and other resources of the Peninsula of Lower California.

Mails for the north from Cortez and the plains close at the U.S. Consulate of Magdalena at 8 a m this morning and go forward by Pacific Mail steamship "Constitution," Captain Cavarly, due from Panama at noon to-day.

From report of the officer in charge of the colony to the Directors, we are allowed to make a few extracts for publication which, though disconnected, will be read with interest by the public in general, and by persons in the East, who express a desire to come into this country.

MAGDALENA, Nov. 9, 1870.

"Going north from the Company's works, the country improves, the soil for twenty miles is a pure black mould, the grass up to the horse's shoulders is sweet and grows very stout; soil is deep and would yield heavy crops of grain or anything else planted in proper season, without irrigation. * * * Next day to Canada de Fintilla, 20 miles, across a belt of country, as rich soil and pasture as I ever saw; any crops could be raised here without irrigation; grass up to the horse's back—black mould. All this virgin soil requires no ploughing except to get rid of the tremendous crop of grass by turning it under. Thence easterly all day through the same class of country. Crossed cactus bearing low ridge into another plain of rich bottom land; black mould, much water on surface and large patches of bulrushes in lowest places; all this plain, called La Matanza, will grow crops without irrigation, water remaining in holes from July to April.

"Next day six miles to El Yano Verde, soil light and rich, horses sinking fetlock deep in friable mould. Grass strong and thick; whole plain will produce largely without irrigation. N. East passed three miles rolling land covered with cactus, lomboi, etc., then fifteen miles of as pretty country and rich land as eyes could see. Grass growing to my waist on horseback—no irrigation needed, easily cleared, no stones, no undergrowth; at night arrived at 'La Grana,' camped among the mesquit trees and tall grass on margin of the lake. This lake being exposed is said to dry up in March or April, but there is no irrigation necessary, no difficulty in preserving water for stock and domestic purposes. The country here is truly beautiful and none more inviting to the laborer on the face of the earth. I cannot give the extent of this valley, as it runs back to the foot hills of the Sierras. It is watered by five distinct gorges, whence is thoroughly irrigated and fertilized, giving two crops per year, planting time September and February; seems arranged expressly for farming under greatest advantages; nature performing the expensive task in the East of fertilization. The mountains each year restore to the vast valleys all the farmer takes from them in his crops. Sunday in camp. Monday, made circuit of 18 miles to describe which would be repeating my repetitions.

"Game is plenty. Black tailed deer very abundant. I can conceive of no country possessing greater natural advantages to the agriculturalist than that which here surrounds me. Next day westerly, crossing ridges of undergrowth dividing valleys of similar character to above, to plains of 'San Julian,' and camped on other side amidst the most luxurious grass and fine trees; plenty of water though this season is comparatively dry; plains very extensive, soil light, black and loose. Next day to Senor Larrinaga's Ranch; with him to St Domingo Lagoon, (north arm of Magdalena bay about 60 miles from Cortez); vessels drawing nine feet can enter and discharge cargo alongside bank—six miles to St Julian plains.

"You can land two or three hundred families here in December, subsist them at trifling expense on beef and other cheap produce of country, while they select their lands and they would be living off their own gardens in April or May. Two hundred families can be housed in 24 hours they can select their lands, and Mexican labor will in forty-eight hours put up comfortable temporary homes; they need only bring seeds, tools, flour, etc., joist and shingles, etc.

"From St. Domingo to So'idad, 13 leagues of beautiful prairie and bottom land, over burthened with grass; much heavily wooded with spice wood and iron wood.

"Along the arroyos the castor oil bean grows wild and more thrifty than I ever saw it in any part of Mexico; stalks over four inches in diameter. There is a wild crop on the banks here, which, if gathered, would stock the San Francisco market. Plenty of water all year round. A spring, whence the Valley derives its name, boils out beneath a venerable willow and never fails. No irrigation needed and two crops of everything can be grown on thousands of acres.

"On return crossed several plains of great extent of superb soil and vegetation, to describe which is impossible with limited time for the mail. I will only say that they are more promising of heavy crops than any lands I ever saw in the 'Santa Clara,' 'Napa,' 'San Jose,' 'Sacramento,' or any valley lands in Upper California, not excepting my own ranches of which I've been so justly proud.

"Arriving at the colony, received with pleasure mails and war news and found all quiet along the Magdalena.

"The well, ordered one mile west of the artesian well, was finished, 23 feet deep, furnishing abundant supply of good water. Have commenced another; one mile beyond, and the men report approaching water to-day.

"The artesian well is going down steadily and satisfactorily, at 75 feet changed 9 inch to 8 inch, from that depth through strata of sandstone, shell, limestone, to soft mud; ran into black sand mud saturated with coal oil, jamming the pipe through this, we brought up black mud again and reached to-day a soft porous deposit at 150 feet.

"There is no doubt of our striking flowing water though I do not by any means think that the welfare of this colony or the actual interests of this company in any way depend upon artesian wells. I look upon it only as an experiment of value to the other portions of the country. I shall continue sinking ordinary wells at points a mile or more distant, throughout the valley, and keep the experimental gardens, etc., under careful cultivation.

"Great numbers of families will doubtless avail of this opportunity to secure a home here in a country which is bound to be a leading one on the Pacific, with its great resources and exquisite climate, but I warn you to be careful as to the class of people you invite, guarding against the introduction of such persons as would be the curse to Lower California that they are to the lands they leave.

J. B. G. I., in charge colonies

The Lower Californian.

MAGDALENA BAY, LOWER CAL., NOV. 10, 1870.

[Re-printed from our last issue.]
THE EXPEDITION.

The Expedition fitted out for the examination and colonization of the lands of the Lower California Company, which sailed for San Francisco on August 1st, proceeded to the bay of Todos Santos, now known as Port Juarez, and after examining the harbor and the valuable adjacent lands of San Antonio, sailed for Cape Colnett, where surveys were made of some of the fertile valleys upon and near Colnett Bay.

Thence to the land locked bay of San Quentin with its valuable salt works, producing now 1,000 tons of the finest salt of the Pacific coast, and capable, with some outlay, of producing five to ten thousand tons.

Thence to the roadstead of Play Maria, the guano island of Elido, the "Ojo de Liebre," or Scammon's Lagoon, whence can be taken, at a trifling cost, salt to supply the Pacific Coast—past Cerros Island and its lofty peaks, rich in minerals, to the quiet harbor of San Bartholomew, known to whalers as Turtle Bay. Thence, after short sojourn, to the superb bay of Magdalena, where, finding every requisite for a great commercial port and city—a spacious and accessible harbor, deep water and sheltered anchorages, over 500 miles of inland steamboat navigation, draining the most fertile lands—a climate unequalled in the world, every nook and inlet swarming with delicious fish and turtles, a district of country capable of sustaining, with its adjacent mineral and other resources, a population of two or three millions of people, it is determined to commence the nucleus of the colonization of the southern portion of the vast properties of the Company.

Materials, tools, lumber and all things necessary are soon landed and roasts cut through the dense undergrowth covering the sandy hills, which, for a hundred miles fringe the bay, and extend back from five or six miles to the plains or prairie.

These verdant plains sweep back to the Sierras some fifty to seventy-five miles, gently rising, and run nearly parallel with the bay and its estuaries some 200 or three hundred miles, flat as a billiard table and covered with fine sweet grass. Over them troop herds of wild cattle, horses, deer and antelope.

On the edge of this plain it is deemed best to commence boring artesian wells, and soon Yankee energy has houses built, a store, a school house for the natives and a printing office, derricks rear their awkward frames, and ere long the squeaking pulleys and grinding augers tell the astonished native that the first well of Lower California is being bored.

The first fortnight no human being is seen, then come in from long distances the people of the country with horses, mules and cows and beef for sale, and welcome as brothers the Americanos.

From the bay a sweep of the seine gives a boatload of delicious fish—mullet, Spanish mackerel, perch, sardines, etc.—another cast and half a dozen green turtles of much succulence are gathered in. Then Nimrod Adams packs in a couple of antelopes, and the Jolly Captain brings home a Chinaman load of fat curley from the fish water ponds of the Llanos—“forty-five with two barrels, my boy.”

Meanwhile surveys go on and maps are made by the Company's able engineer, of farms and village sites, and the projected city of "Cortez"—named after the great conqueror of Mexico and discoverer, in 1534, of Lower California.

On the opposite side of the great bay the officers of the flagship Ossipee make scientific surveys and vicifications of "Man o' War Cove," which, with its sheltered anchorage, fine holding ground, dry dock and coaling advantages, easy capability for impregnable defense, and perfect accessibility, under steam and sail, will probably be the principal rendezvous of the vessels of the United States, and will give to the United States the absolute control of the Pacific Ocean.

Gardens are also made. Spading the virgin soil and planting every vegetable and flower of temperate and torrid zone. Corn, two weeks from planting, is a foot high, and soon the roasting ears will be ready.

And so all work with high heart and courage, confident of the immediate future and thankful to God for being permitted by Him to be the instruments to inaugurate a new era of intelligence, energy and prosperity in this rich and beautiful country so long crushed by misrule and abandoned to ignorance and sloth.

THE LOWER CALIFORNIA COMPANY.

We are frequently asked the question, "What is the Lower California Company?" and we will endeavor to give an outline of the institution in the small space this little sheet permits us to devote to any subject.

The Lower California Company is organized, by special legislative enactment, under a charter of most comprehensive character.

It is the grantee of the greater portion of the Territory of Lower California, say from the 31st degree of latitude, south, to the 24th degree, and from the Pacific Ocean to the Sea of Cortez, with all its bays, harbors, islands and other dependencies—mines, fisheries, etc.—say about 47,000 square miles, or 3,000,000 of acres.

This was granted in May, 1856, and the purchase money upon same paid to the Mexican Government. The Company is also assignee of the greater part of the Decker Contract for the Survey of the State of Sonora—the contractors, in consideration of their expenditures in making the elaborate and costly surveys, maps, etc. of that State, to receive one-third of the public lands of the State, embracing minerals, etc., calculated at some 25,000,000 acres of land, much of great fertility.

This Company is also owner of large grants, through the heirs of the Emperor Imbide, in the States of Sinaloa and Sonora, and the Frontera of Lower California, including the mouth and territory on both sides of the Colorado River.

In addition to these, the Company is possessor of various isolated properties derived from private contracts and grants.

To represent these vast properties and franchises, the capital of the Company has been fixed at thirty-five millions dollars, and the stock subscribed among the original promoters and subscribers, whose names appear below, and by them subdivided.

The Company organization is one of the strongest, politically, financially and socially, in this country, or the world. The officers of the Company are:

Hon. Richard Schell, Banker, of N. Y., President, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, Member of Congress, Vice-President, Wm. R. Travers, Esq., Banker, of N. Y. Treas'r, Drake de Kay, of New York, Secretary.

COUNSEL OF THE COMPANY.

Hon. Samuel L. M. Barlow, of New York.
Hon. Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts.
Hon. Caleb Cushing, of Washington.
Hon. Robert M. McLane, of Baltimore.
Julius K. Rose, Esq., Michigan.
Messrs. Dent & Paige, of Washington.
Messrs. Winans & Belknap, of San Francisco.

The Directors and some of the leading Stockholders are:

C. K. Garrison, Esq., capitalist, of New York.
Hon. Wm. G. Fargo, expresses, New York.
John W. Anderson Esq., capitalist, New York.
Leonard Jerome, Esq., broker, New York.
Hon. Marshall O. Roberts, capitalist, New York.
Hon. Henry C. Stebbins, capitalist, New York.
Geo. Wilkes, Esq., editor, New York.
Hon. John A. Griswold, Member Con., New York.
Hon. Richard Schell, banker, New York.
Maj. Gen. Benj. F. Butler, Member Con., Mass.
Wm. R. Travers, Esq., banker, New York.
Hon. Beverly Johnson, of Maryland.
Captain J. E. G. Isham, of California.
Samuel L. M. Barlow, lawyer, New York.
Hon. August Belmont, banker, New York.
Hon. Robert M. McLane, late Minister to China and Mexico.

Gen. Caleb Cushing, late Min. to China and Mexico.
Ben. Holladay, Esq., steamships, etc., California.
Francis Morris, Esq., capitalist, New York.
Col. Jacob P. Leese, of California.
Paul S. Forbes, of Russell & Co., China.
W. W. Sherman, of Linnac, S. & Co., bankers.
A. Welch, Esq., of Philadelphia, Railroads.
H. Winthrop Gray, Esq., banker, New York.
Frank Work, Esq., banker, New York.
David Crawford, Esq., banker, New York.
Edward S. Sanford, Esq., W. U. Telegraphs.
Geo. Griswold, Esq., China merchant, New York.
J. Kearney Warren, Esq., banker, New York.
John R. Garland, Esq., broker, New York.
J. McB. Davidson, Esq., manufacturer, N. Y.
Wm. B. Meeker, Esq., "Bank of New York."
Hon. John W. Forney, editor, Washington and Philadelphia.

These gentlemen, the original projectors of the enterprise, have very generally divided up their interests among their political and financial friends, thereby greatly increasing the strength and power of the Company.

The headquarters of the Company is at No. 35 William street, New York, with branch offices at No. 315 California street, San Francisco, Fifth street, San Diego, and at Magdalena Bay, Lower California.

ADVANTAGES TO SETTLERS WHICH LOWER CALIFORNIA OFFERS.

It is not claimed for Lower California that a man can grow rich without work, but it is a fact that he can here live better with less labor, produce more from a given number of acres, and enjoy more comforts and luxuries for less money than in any other part of the world.

The climate is equable and delicious. The heat never excessive nor the cold more severe than the October of the Eastern States. This unvarying temperature, the absence of fogs, the constant breezes from sea to sea across the peninsula, and the open air life throughout the year renders the country the healthiest on the continent—local diseases being entirely unknown.

The soil is unsurpassed in fertility—small patches cropped by the natives for over a hundred consecutive years without rotation and without manure still produce in abundance.

Two crops of corn are raised on the same ground in each year. Planted in February, gathered in July; replanted in July and again gathered in January and February.

Wheat sown in January and reaped in June; re-sown at once and reaped again in January, producing heavy crops of full grain of the finest quality.

Barley and oats the same. Beans, two crops, on same ground. Tomatoes, perennial; potatoes, prolific and mealy; sweet potatoes growing to an enormous size.

Of the fruit trees; oranges, lemons, limes, dates, figs, pomegranates, guayaba, tamarinds, bananas, olives, almonds, walnuts, mulberries and many other varieties grow luxuriantly and bear profusely with little or no attention.

Notwithstanding this lavishness of nature, the natives are so averse to labor and so ignorant of elementary farming or horticulture, that they do not raise enough of the cereals for the supply of the small population of the territory, (some 26,000 souls), and import from Sonora a large part of their wheat and other grains at a high cost, exchanging therefor the hides, beef and tallow, which nature raises for them and a light lasso reaps.

Hence the prices are for—Wheat, from \$1.75 @ \$2.25 per bushel; Corn, from \$1.37 @ \$2.00; Beans, 2 cts. @ 4 cts. per pound.

While the colonist can buy to any extent the finest quality of:

Beef, dressed, at 2 1/2 cts. per lb.; Sheep, do at \$1.00 each; Goats, do, at \$1.00 each; Deer, do, \$2.00 each; Antelope, do, at \$2.00 each; Cows, milk, with calf, \$9.00 @ \$10.00; Horses, working, \$20.00 @ \$35.00; Mules, \$30.00 @ \$35.00; Cheese, good, 4c. per lb.; Wine, excellent, 65 cts. per gal.; Dried Raisins, 6 cts. per lb.; Figs, 5 cts.; Dates, 5 cts.; Etc. Etc.; Brown Sugar, common, 4 cts. @ 5 cts. per lb.; Molasses, 20 cts. @ 25 cts. per lb.

The almost incredible abundance in the bay of fish of every kind, the turtles which swarm in every lagoon, the existence in the vicinity of inexhaustible supplies of salt, the quarries of gypsum, the vast stores of lime, the abundant supply of wood for fuel tend also to render living cheap.

These are some of the advantages which are held out to the settlers whom the Lower California Co. proposes to invite to their territory.

In addition thereto it should be stated that the colonist of the Company is free from taxation of any kind—is free to worship God in such manner as he shall see fit, is free from military service and can import free of any duty goods of all descriptions thus establishing an absolutely free port and enabling him to have every product, and manufacture of the globe at cost price.

From San Francisco by Pacific Mail Steamers every fortnight in four days we reach Magdalena.

By North Pacific Transportation Co's steamers, in same time.

By return trips every 10 days from Magdalena to San Francisco.

From New York to Magdalena by Pacific Mail via Panama in 17 days or by Union Pacific Railroad, and Pacific Mail in 10 days.

All at very low rates of passage.

Sailing vessels direct or touching en route for lower ports, will also furnish cheap passage and low freight.

As the country fills up, Railroad and Telegraph facilities will follow.

The native population is eager to have colonists settle up the country.

The Company is laying off the country in sections of one mile square—say 640 acres each.

Upon the first section the first well is now being bored and it is the intention to put down a well upon every fifth section throughout the whole extent of the plains connecting these points with good roads.

The desire of the Company being to fill up the country rapidly, it is proposed to give to the first one thousand settlers 160,000 acres of land, free of cost—say 160 acres of land to each married man and 100 acres to each unmarried man, the colonist being allowed the privilege of selecting his own lands and of purchasing more adjacent land, at low price and on easy terms should he so desire.

Also free a full lot in the new city.

A quarter section of these lands will, however, produce as much as a section elsewhere. No Farming will be necessary.

It must be understood that the Company will extend these liberal terms only to industrious, law-abiding citizens, who are not entirely destitute of means.

Maps and plans of city and plains have been sent by the flagship "Ossipee," to the San Francisco office of the Company, No. 315 California street, where full information may be obtained of the Secretary of the Company.

LA BASSE CALIFORNIE.

La plume autorisée de M. le colonel Drake de Kay, secrétaire de la Lower California Company, a fait connaître le projet de la Compagnie en établissant et faisant un courant d'émigration vers les régions inexploitées de la Basse Californie.

Une expédition réunissant des éléments divers de la science, de l'agriculture, de l'industrie, et notamment de spécialistes dans l'art des forages artésiens, vient d'accomplir la mission d'exploratoires dont elle avait été chargée par la compagnie.

En ma qualité d'ingénieur attaché à l'expédition, l'on me fait l'honneur de me demander quelques lignes sur le résultat de notre campagne. — Bien que le cadre de cette modeste feuille ne permette pas tous les développements que comporte l'intéressante question à traiter, j'accepte avec empressement cette tâche dans la limite restreinte qui m'est donnée, me réservant de mettre ultérieurement sous les yeux de nos lecteurs des considérations plus détaillées sur l'avenir de la nouvelle colonie.

Tout d'abord, je dois le dire, et mes amis s'en souviennent, j'ai accompagné l'expédition sans grand enthousiasme, l'esprit prévenu par les récits décevants d'observateurs superficiels, et plus encore par une publication récente de savants chargés par la Compagnie d'explorer le pays que nous venons de visiter. — Partit dans de telles dispositions l'on sera donc bien surpris de me voir revenir émerveillé ravi de ce que j'ai vu et quelque peu troublé d'être en si complète contradiction avec le livre précité où, quelques fois, le roman le dispute à la fable et où, toujours, la fantaisie a plus de part que la réalité. La baie de Magdalena se trouve entre le 24me et le 25me degré de latitude nord; elle égale presque en grandeur, sinon en beauté, celle de San Francisco. Par son étendue, la sculpture de son abri, sa situation pittoresque, cette baie a peu de rivales. A droite et à gauche de l'entrée, s'étendent les deux îles de Margarita et du Mont Isabel sur les quelles s'élèvent des remparts infranchissables contre les fureurs de l'Océan et dont les sommets atteignent des hauteurs de 1200 et 1300 pieds. De l'autre côté de la baie, et dans une direction parallèle, s'étendent des plaines immenses, limitées à l'ouest par des dunes, et à l'est par une chaîne de montagnes qui court depuis le Cap San Lucas, le long de la presqu'île dont elle forme l'arête centrale et va se souder au nord avec la chaîne du coast range. Cette chaîne de formation tertiaire et quaternaire porte ainsi que celle du coast range l'empreinte de l'action éruptive et volcanique qui les a soulevées; elle se présente sous forme de collines tantôt calcaires, tantôt arénacées, qui se confondent avec la chaîne des dunes du littoral d'origine toute récente.

Nous avons été saisis d'admiration en traversant pour la première fois ces dunes qui ont une largeur d'environ 5 miles sur 250 pieds de hauteur, à l'aspect de la splendide végétation dont elles sont couvertes, et où dominent les cactus gigantesques. A quoi faut-il attribuer cette étonnante fertilité qui permet à l'arbutus le plus absorbant d'acquiescer des dimensions insusées? La cause en est évidemment à la présence de débris calcaires mélangés d'argile venant de la montagne et de la plaine, mais surtout aussi à l'existence de nappes aquifères peu profondes, suivant l'inclinaison de la plaine et abouissant à la mer après avoir traversé les dunes. En effet, nous croyons qu'entre les points d'affleurement et l'océan le sol a dû subir des dislocations qui, en rompant la continuité des strates, ont donné issue aux eaux souterraines dans plusieurs parties voisines de la baie. Cette hypothèse est la seule admissible pour expliquer le mode d'alimentation des sources qui ont émergé dans l'île même de Margarita et dans quelques langues de terre formant lagunes, sources dont le niveau reste constant et ne paraît pas sensiblement subir l'influence d'une extrême sécheresse et d'une pluie prolongée.

Cette circonstance n'est d'ailleurs pas un fait isolé puisque l'on connaît des sources d'eau douce qui s'ouvrent en pleine mer et jaillissent du fond jusqu'à la surface de l'Océan. Telle est celle qui, au dire de Humboldt, existe sur la côte meridionale de Cuba à 2 ou 3 miles de terre.

Mais si nous avons admiré la végétation des dunes, quelle formule employer pour rendre l'impression que nous avons ressentie lorsque, arrivés au dernier sommet de la colline, l'immense panorama de la plaine s'est déroulé à nos yeux: — nous étions tous dans une beatitude contemplative pleine de ravissement et de charme! Rien ne peut donner une idée de la richesse, de la variété d'aspect et de l'étendue de ces pâturages qui, au mois de Septembre, nous rappelaient les luxuriantes prairies des régions les plus favorisées de France au mois d'Août.

Le représentant de la compagnie a pensé avec raison que le point de rencontre de la plaine avec le pied de la chaîne de collines que nous venions de traverser, devait être la première étape de la colonie agricole, et il a décidé que là on pratiquerait le premier forage, après, toutefois, avoir déterminé l'inclinaison, l'allure et la disposition générale des terrains dans le bassin où nous devions opérer. L'opération est en cours d'exécution, marche d'une manière normale, et tout fait presser que bientôt les efforts combinés des chefs et des ouvriers seront couronnés du plus beau succès; car, nous le disons avec toute l'assurance et l'autorité que nous donne une longue série d'observations et une grande expérience, l'eau est par tout sous cette fertile plaine. Si l'on ne voit au pied de la chaîne centrale et sur le littoral que de pauvres bourgades fondées par les anciens missionnaires, c'est que les habitants ignorants,

apatiques, et d'ailleurs peu sensibles au bien être matériel, sont incapables de faire surgir du sol, par une culture intelligente, les richesses incalculables qu'il recèle.

Au point de vue minéral, l'étude de ces régions décrites ne permet pas encore de formuler une opinion précise sur la géologie du pays; il faut autre chose que de rapides excursions en la vue de quelques échantillons incomplets pour fonder une théorie sérieuse. Néanmoins on peut affirmer que cette contrée renferme un grand nombre de filons métallifères d'une grande richesse pour la plupart.

Quant au climat, les côtes du Pacifique sont protégées contre les chaleurs de l'éte par l'influence du courant de Tesson ou du Japon qui les suit dans toute leur étendue jusqu'au Cap San Lucas. Le voisinage de ce courant rend la température d'une uniformité parfaite et fait de la Basse Californie l'un de plus beaux pays du monde.

Si je ne craignais de dépasser les limites qui me sont tracées, je dirais quelques mots sur les voies de communication projetées, la création de villes et villages, l'infinité variétés des cultures qui peuvent être entreprises avec succès, etc. — mais je suis obligé de clore ce déjà trop long article, et n'ai plus que l'espace nécessaire pour engager les travailleurs de tous pays à ne pas laisser échapper cette occasion unique de gagner par un travail attrayant et facile l'aisance, le bonheur et la paix des vieilles années.

Pendant que les bataillons se choquent et rougissent de leur sang les plaines du vieux monde, allez hardis pionniers fertiliser de vos sueurs les sillons de la nouvelle colonie! Allez tressor de vos couronnes d'épis, ces couronnes de la paix seront moins pesantes et plus glorieuses à vos fronts que celles des lauriers de la guerre!

Magdalena Bay, 12 Octobre, 1870.

de ROUGEMONT.

TO MEXICAN FAMILIES IN ALTA CALIFORNIA.

It is estimated by General Bibiano Davalos, in his last report to the Supreme Government, that there are at least one thousand Mexican families in Upper California who are desirous of moving into Lower California. These are informed that reservations have been made in that portion of the Lower California Company's territory lying between the 31st and 27th parallels of north latitude, which they are invited to take advantage of. Should settlements further south be preferred—say between the 27th and 24th degrees—liberal provision will be made for them by the Company.

For further information apply to
DRAKE DE KAY, Secretary,
No. 315 California st., San Francisco,
Or to Captain W. A. WINDER, San Diego, or at this office at Magdalena.

NOTICE TO MINERS AND PROSPECTORS IN LOWER CALIFORNIA.

Persons now at work in the new placers and other mines in Lower California, and parties proposing to prospect that country are advised to communicate without delay with the
Secretary of the Lower California Company, No. 315 California street San Francisco,
Or Captain W. A. WINDER, Agent of Frontier Department of the Lower California Company, San Diego,
Or Captain N. RICHARD DERING, Superintendent, Magdalena Bay.

COAST SURVEY OF LOWER CALIFORNIA.

It is stated that Professor George Davidson, the talented Superintendent of the U. S. Coast Survey Department of the Pacific, has received instructions to have the survey made of the coast of Lower California, from San Diego to Cape San Lucas.

If this is the case we congratulate both the Mercantile, Marine and the Naval Service that this un-surveyed, unmapped and unknown coast line of over one thousand miles in length, is at last to be rendered in some degree safe for the vast amount of shipping constantly passing by it.

Magdalena Bay has been surveyed by Admiral Sir John Belcher, of the Royal Navy, and by Admiral du Petit Thouars of the French service. Ceiros Island by Capt. Kellet, R. N.; San Quentin Bay by Capt. Belcher, R. N.; San Bartolme Bay by Lieut. Wood, R. N.; Cape Colney Bay by Capt. Wood, R. N. With these local exceptions the coast is unknown, and the longitude is so incorrect that nearly the whole coast is 15 miles west of its position, as laid down upon the wretched charts now in use; and many harbors and roadsteads capable of sheltering fleets are not even shown as existing.

Such ignorance of our marine threshold is a disgrace to the United States, and it must be peculiarly humiliating to our naval officers when entering the above-mentioned Lower California harbors to be forced to look to the labors of British and French naval men for the safety of U.S. ships in American waters. The money value of the losses of our marine upon this coast for any one single year would have more than paid for a survey of the coast. Take the last vessel of importance, the "Golden City," which cost \$1,250,000 to build, and a cargo worth half a million more, a total loss; her hull on \$800,000, only saved,

from the fact that she was beached in smooth water; had it blown half a gale of wind the total loss would have been about two-and-a-half millions of dollars.

Should this work be commenced, the Coast Survey will obtain the cordial co-operation of the Lower California Co., which has now in its possession very elaborate maps, upon a large scale, of the Gulf coast from La Paz to the Colorado River, and of the Sonora Coast from Rio Colorado down to Guaymas, and the Yaqui River, made by a scientific commission with the greatest accuracy at the cost of three years labor and over three hundred thousand dollars in gold.

These maps will be freely placed at the disposal of the Government when required.

By making Magdalena Bay a central station, thence working north and south, (while working south from San Diego), the work could be rapidly accomplished, while the delicious climate and the mail facilities by Pacific Mail steamers constantly passing, would render the service a peculiarly agreeable one to the officers of the coast survey and navy detailed for the work.

PLAINS OF MAGDALENA.

From the Report of J. Ross Browne, on the Resources of the Pacific States and Territories, 1867, we extract the following:

"The climate of Lower California is so mild that all the usually cultivated plants of both tropical and temperate countries grow side by side in the open fields. The lowest temperature we encountered in four months; the coldest of the year, was 57 deg. Fahr., and the winter averages from 65 deg. to 76 deg.

"Plantains and bananas, dates, figs, oranges, lemons, limes, olives, pomegranates, peaches, and in the northern part even apples grow and flourish, requiring but little care when first set out—none afterwards. Vineyards exist everywhere, and the native wine is infinitely superior to that of Upper California. Fields of sugar cane are to common to excite remark. Tobacco and cotton are cultivated, and over more than one-half of the Territory wild cotton is a common weed. The castor bean grows wild—a perennial tree with a wooden trunk.

"On the west coast bordering on the northern part of Magdalena Bay, and the long arm which extends northward, are extensive plains, nearly level, rising insensibly to the east, and in great part covered with rich soil. These plains are covered with a dense vegetation; there is no water on the surface, and this fact alone has prevented their settlement by a native population.

"As soon, however, as land shall become valuable, this land will be cleared off, wells dug, and nearly the whole tract will be cultivated.

"Water of good quality and of unlimited quantity can be obtained by shallow wells; the sea breezes will supply the lifting power, and a population greater than can now be found from San Diego to Cape San Lucas can here find comfortable homes and abundant subsistence."

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY

SAN FRANCISCO TO MAGDALENA BAY.

The magnificent steamers of this favorite line leave San Francisco on 2d and 18th of each month, arriving at Magdalena Bay on 7th and 23d—only 3 1/2 days passage.

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ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW

45 William Street, New York.

REFERENCES.

- Hon. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER, of Massachusetts.
- Hon. CHARLES J. FOLGER, Judge N. Y. Court of Appeals.
- Hon. LUKE POLAND, M.C., Late Chief Justice Supreme Court, Vt.
- GEORGE BLISS, Jr., Esq., New York.
- Hon. CHARLES SUMNER, U.S. Senator.

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D. O. MILLS, President.
W. C. RAEBSON, Cashier.

PHILIPPE DE ROUGEMONT,

CIVIL ENGINEER AND ARCHITECT

No. 215 California Street, San Francisco.

Refers to Gen. J. B. Alexander, Engineer Corps, U.S.A. and to The Lower California Co.

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Endorsements of our Statements.
The last mails bring San Francisco papers, in which we notice with regret attacks upon The Lower California Company, and upon this country, by writers who have never seen it. We were in hopes, that in our attempts to open up the vast resources of this great country, creating thereby a valuable trade for San Francisco, we would meet with the warm sympathy and hearty co-operation of the California press.

We had however the consolation of receiving at the same time the following certificate of the truth of our assertions made by entirely disinterested persons, and which we publish with much satisfaction.

CERTIFICATE.

San Francisco, Cal. Nov. 3, 1870.

We the undersigned, having returned this day from Magdalena Bay, Lower California, where we have been employed since the 18th of August, hereby certify that to our own personal knowledge, the foregoing articles from the "Lower Californian," dated October 12th, and published at Magdalena Bay, are strictly true in every particular, and in no way exaggerated, and that we fully endorse the statements therein made.

We further certify that we are not interested pecuniarily to the extent of one dollar in the success of the "Lower California Company," its stock, lands, mines, franchises or colonies.

Mark B. Silver, Mining Engineer,
Thos. S. Sweet, Clerk, San Francisco
le Rougemont, Civil Engineer, S. F.
Andrew J. Worth, Merchant Captain
Willard S. Sadler, Merchant Captain
Chas. Underhill. Ex-Employee.
Chas. Smith. do.
Fred. Lawson, do.
Francis W. Smedley. do.
Lewis Styes. do.
Albert R. Palmer, do.

Additional Certificate.

We the undersigned, having either resided in Lower California, or travelled extensively through that Territory, hereby certify that the statements in regard to climate, fertility, etc. of Lower California, made in the above mentioned articles from "The Lower Californian" of Magdalena Bay, are true and correct of our own knowledge, and we also certify that we are not interested pecuniarily in the Lower California Company, its stock, lands, mines, franchises and colonies.

Chas. B. Smith, 450 Natoma Street.
Capt. M. M. Kimberly of Sta. Barbara
Capt. Eastman, of San Francisco.
Geo. L. de Blois, Shipping Merchant
M. A. Wheeler, Mining Engineer,
James de Stevenson,
J. P. Hale, Merchant, 314 Oak St.

**FREE LAND
FREE TRADE.
NO FENCES NECESSARY!
HOMES FOR THE POOR!
HEALTH FOR THE RICH.**

THE LOWER CALIFORNIA COMPANY, grantee of the larger part of the Peninsula, say from the 31st degree of latitude south to the 24th degree, including islands, bays, and other dependencies, with its minerals, fisheries and other franchises, is now prepared to offer to colonists such lands as they may desire to settle upon, with all the **Exemptions, Privileges and Advantages** accruing to the Colonists of the Company under the concession from the Mexican Government. Among these are **FREEDOM FROM TAXATION,** Exemption from the Military Service of the country. The right to **IMPORT GOODS FREE OF ANY DUTY** or Taxes of any description.

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Will be decided by the company, **Free of Cost,** Of such lands as they may themselves select in the Peninsula.

160 ACRES OF LAND,

To each married man, and 100 acres to each single man, with the privilege of afterwards purchasing more adjacent land on most reasonable and favorable terms.

Each colonist will also receive a **CITY LOT FREE.** Colonists desiring to settle in the Northern portion of the Territory, can reach the same via San Diego. Those wishing to take up land in the fertile plains adjacent to the

Magnificent Bay of Magdalena,

Below San Diego, on the Pacific Coast, can reach thereby by the Pacific Mail Steamships, by the North Pacific Transportation Company's Steamers, (four days from San Francisco), and by sailing vessels. The climate is the finest in the world; the soil most productive, raising two crops of every grain and vegetable; the fisheries inexhaustible; living very cheap. The Lower Californians are eager to have the country settled by Americans. The first crop being planted in January, parties should start at once. For further particulars apply to

THE LOWER CALIFORNIA COMPANY,
35 William Street, New York.
315 California Street, San Francisco.

MAGDALENA ADVERTISEMENTS.


Pablo de la Toba
Rancho de San Luis
Cattle, horses, mules;

Picota Ranch
Ramon de la Toba
Pack mules, horses & cattle

Victoriano Gomez
San Hidalgo Ranch
Horses, mules and cattle for sale.



Francisco Narriague
Rancho de Santo Domingo
Contractor for transportation -

Silas L. Adams
artesian well borer

 Joel Byrns,
Blacksmith

William Denton
Civil Engineer and Surveyor
Residence, San Antonio
orders received at Magdalena-

George Mason
Horticulturist

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