

notes on Monterey from D. R. Ashley, Proc.

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p03

sesion extraordinaria del 12 de En^o de 1835.

About construction of carcel.

(see § 126 also)

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16 B.E.S.
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Monterey
Calabosse
Judge J. W. Redman.

Bill, Horace Mayer On The Old West Coast.

153-154 3 J. W. Contents, 33 pp, index illus N. Y. Barron - 1930

There were many queer and original characters in California during the early days and I knew a lot of them quite intimately; but none of those I remember was more strikingly original than Judge J. W. Redman, who presided over the courts of San Jose, Monterey and San Luis Obispo when they were first organized under American authority.

One morning Judge Redman saddled his horse at Monterey to ride to San Luis Obispo in pursuit of his legal duties. After mounting he recalled that a certain Mexican convicted of murder was to be brought before him in Monterey that morning for sentence. So the judge rode over to the courthouse, threw the bridle-reins over a post, strode into court with jingling spurs, took his seat on the bench

¹²¹
and called upon his bailiff to produce
the murderer for sentence.

The bailiff conveyed the news to the
sheriff at the calaboose and the
prisoner was led into court. The
sheriff informed the court that the
Mexican could not speak English and
asked if he should go out and
drum up an interpreter. The judge,
recollecting the long, hard day's
ride ahead of him, was disinclined
to lose time while the morning air
was fresh so he said he thought
he knew enough Spanish to work his
way through the brief business,
and anyway these fellows always
knew some words of English. - . .

The judge descended from the bench,
walked to an open window and
pointed to a large live oak
standing on the mesa near the
courthouse. "What you call him eh?"

The Mexican shaded his eyes and
peered out the window "Es un aveino,
señor."

(3)

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Monterey
Calaboose
Judge J. W. Redman.

Bell, Horace Major On The Old West Coast.

N.Y. Barron - 1930.
Contents, 336 pp, index, illus.

p 154 Cont'd

"All right then, that's an encino.
We call him a trul, sabe?" Remount-
ing the bench, the Court then pro-
ceeded with the sentence. "The
judgment of this Court is that the
sheriff put a chicote around your
neck, that he take you to that big
encino and that he then and there
hang you. Jesus Mendocia, by
said neck would be dead. . . .
p 155. "This Court stands adjourned
for the term". The judge's spurs
jingled out of the chaps
and soon the hoofbeats of his
mount were heard pounding
southward.

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76 B.E.S.
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Monterey
Whalers - Monterey Bay.
Old Iron Safe.

Bell, Horace Major On The Old West Coast.
N.Y. Barrons 1930.

Contents, index, etc.

\$155

R.A. Redman, a son of this eminent jurist [Judge J.W. Redman], one of the oldest barkeepers in California and at the present writing an honored member of the Los Angeles bar, inherits a great deal of his father's originality of character to which is added a rich fund of humor. How he became deputy treasurer of Santa Clara County is one of his best stories.

It seems that in the days when R.A. was a young man his father was the postmaster & possessor of an old iron safe he had salvaged from a stranded whaler on the shores of Monterey Bay. This he had in his home in San Jose, county seat of Santa Clara County. A captain Murphy was county treasurer and coveted the old safe, the only one in town,

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as a repository for the official funds.
So he approached young Redman and
proposed that if he could procure
the use of his father's safe he would
appoint the boy deputy treasurer at
a salary of two hundred and fifty
a month. The deal was put through
and young R. A. was installed in the
office of the treasurer where as keeper
of the safe he soon had opportu-
nity to become acquainted with
the remarkable financial man-
agement of the county treasurer.

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Monterey
Pir Pico, last of Mexican Governors.

Bill, Horace Major On The Old West Coast.
N.Y. Barrows 1939.
Contents, index, illus

p262.

That line, "a little piece of land - about four degrees of latitude," is a dog on the part of our poet at the flourish manner in which Pir Pico, last of the governors under Mexican rule, gave away land to friends and relatives, especially as he saw the end of his sway approaching, a wise old coon was Don Pir. A man of real ability, a shrewd man, yet the Shylocks got him. Originally he was a Yankee hater. He didn't want to see his native province - for he was an hijo del pais, born at San Gabriel - come under guigo rule. Once, several years before the American occupation, when a provincial political convention was in session at Monterey, there was heated discussion of the probability that England was about to seize California.

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General Vallejo, a far-seeing man whose views were ahead of his time, dared to rise up and make an eloquent speech recommending annexation to the United States rather than surrender to England. This brought the stocky, swarthy, bearded Pico to his feet, in violent denunciation of the gringos. "Look eastward toward the Sierra Nevada at this moment," he cried, "and watch them already descending into the valley of the Sacramento, taking what they wish without so much as asking leave. The gringos come not to share, but to govern."

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Monterey
Customs House Museum

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Bell, Horace Major On The Old West Coast.
N. Y. Barrons 1930.
Cuts, index, illus.

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William Toler, who died comparatively recently in Oakland, is the man credited in history with having first raised the American flag over California. He was a midshipman in the U.S. Navy in 1846 and when Commodore Sloat took possession of California July 7 of that year in the name of the United States, Midshipman Toler is recorded as the individual who actually hauled the stars and stripes up the flagstaff over the old customs house at Monterey.

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But four years previously William P Reynolds had caused the American flag to be raised over the same building. In 1842 Commodore A. Catesby Jones, U.S.N., on board a man-of-war lying in Monterey Bay, was visited by Reynolds, who

was then made of some sailing
craft in the Pacific trade.
Bill Reynolds gave the Commodore
a whole lot of romance, the gist
of which was that England was
about to seize California; that he,
Bill Reynolds, had discovered
through intricate diplomatic
intrigue that a British man-of-
war was expected at Monterey
any moment to take possession
to forestall the possibility of
American ownership in the future.

Whereupon Commodore Jones, U.S.N.,
not to be outflanked by any
maneuvers of John Bull, foudge
marines, hoisted the American flag
over the government building and
formally took possession of
California in the name of the
United States of America.