

The Daily Union, **EXTRA!**

SAN DIEGO, NOVEMBER 25, 1871.

STARTLING NEWS FROM LOWER CALIFORNIA!

REVOLUTION AT MAG- DALENA!!

**Troops from La Paz Drive Out the
Authorities—Capture of an Amer-
ican Schooner—Insult to the
British and American Flags.**

The American schooner *Ellen & Catherine*, Capt. Mayne, arrived at San Diego yesterday in distress, 16 days from Magdalena Bay, Lower California, with forty passengers. Col. Drake De Kay, U. S. Consul at Magdalena, brought up the schooner, on Government account, having been driven out of the country by the Mexican soldiery.

The Captain states that a revolution has broken out in Lower California. On the 28th of October a detachment of Territorial troops came to Magdalena from La Paz to dispossess the Mexican authorities and seize the funds and archives in the Custom House. The Federal officers placed themselves under the protection of the American Consul, but his flag was not respected, and he was obliged to flee with the officers for his life. They took refuge on board the British ship *Comadre*, and were thus enabled to escape from the port in a small schooner under the convoy of the P. M. S. S. Co's steamer *Constitution*. The consular flags of Consul De Kay and Vice Consul Van Winkle were brought off in safety, as also the archives and papers of the Federal Custom House. All the port officers and their families were brought away and are now here.

The American schooner *Greenwood*, of New York, which was lying in port, was fired into by the revolutionists and captured, and is now held by the Mexicans.

The sloop *Allen* of New York, was also captured, having been sent with a Consular dispatch to the U. S. Consul at La Paz. A courier to Cape San Lucas, with a petition of the American citizens to the upward bound steamer, was likewise taken prisoner.

The soldiers pursued the Consuls and American citizens on board the British ship *Comadre*, but were driven off by the determined action of Captain Penrice. Constant threats of capturing the ship were made, and the capture and shooting of the refugees, but no further attempt was made.

The people say that they left hurriedly, abandoning all their personal property, and that the schooner—a small one of 35 tons—was ill prepared for the voyage. There was much suffering during the trip for water, food and fuel.

Commodore Martin, formerly Boarding Officer at San Francisco, was a Custom House officer at Magdalena, and is one of the passengers by the *Ellen & Catherine*. He informs us that the schooner touched at Cedros Island for wood and water. The water was bad and they got little fuel. For the past five days they have subsisted on a uniform diet of rice and beans. The Commodore gives us the following list of vessels in port at Magdalena Nov. 8th:

British ship *Comadre*, Penrice, loading *orchilla* for Liverpool, having 1,000 bales on board; Ecuadorian brig *Maria Esther*, loading *orchilla*; Ec. brig *Amelia* same cargo, from Clark's Lagoon; Am. schr. *Greenwood* (captured by Mexicans), now in Clark's Lagoon, ashore; sloop *W. R. Allen*, Collins, (captured); sloop *Paul*, Williams, arrived Nov. 5th, 17 days from San Francisco; (the *Paul* reported sailing in company with scow *Virginia*, from San Francisco for Magdalena Bay, but parted from her in a fog: the latter had not yet arrived); Ecuadorian brig *Venezia*, 40 days from Guaynquil, in distress, having lost spars, sails, bulwarks, etc.; she had a cargo of chocolate, pepper etc., and was bound for San Francisco; she arrived at Magdalena leaking badly.

THE LOWER CALIFORNIA REVOLUTION

Indignities to the Flag of the United States.

ORCHILLA THE REPORTED CAUSE.

American Citizens Obligated to Flee For Their Lives.

SEIZURE OF AMERICAN PROPERTY.

The Spirit of the Buccaneers Revived.

THE LOWER CALIFORNIA COLONIZATION SOCIETY OUT AND INJURED.

We published yesterday an account, taken from the San Diego Union of November 25th, of the late revolutionary movement, which occurred on the 28th of October last, in Magdalena Bay, Lower California. This morning the steamship *Orizaba* arrived from San Diego, bringing to this port as passengers a number of American citizens, who had been obliged to flee before this warlike demonstration, leaving behind them their personal effects and the possessions for which they had worked and suffered the hardships of a Mexican frontier life. Our reporter sought an interview with these gentlemen, from whom was obtained reliable information regarding the whole affair.

The Spark that Kindled the Flame—Discovery of Orchilla.

Cupidity as the rule, with but few exceptions, has always been the inciting cause of revolutionary movements in Mexican territory. Indeed, it would be otherwise difficult to account for a hostile demonstration of this kind on the bleak, uninviting and sparsely settled coast of Lower California.

It is a fact well known to our readers that a company of Americans, known as the "Lower California Colonization Company," have claimed an immense grant of land, comprising nearly all the territory of Lower California, ceded to them by the Mexican Government, the tenure to be subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions, requiring them to establish a specified number of colonists upon their territory within a given period.

For a long time this immense grant was suffered to lie idle, no one apparently thinking the matter worth either their time and attention, or the employment of their capital.

An event occurred however, about two years ago, which materially altered the prospects of the success of the scheme in a financial point of view, from a new political worthless bubble to a commercial prize worth seeking.

Captain J. S. Howland, the master of a Chilian whaler, was temporarily stopping in the Bay of Magdalena, when he accidentally made the discovery that the country abounded in that species of moss known as *orchilla*, which had previously been exported from the Gallapagos Islands. This moss is a plant growing as a parasite on the bark of the trees and shrubbery which cover the face of the country in the vicinity of the bay mentioned, and elsewhere throughout the western coast of the peninsula. More particularly it is found on the tree known as *Palo Adam*, commonly called the "Adam tree."

The properties of this plant are well-known to those engaged in dyeing operations. It is used in combination with other dyes to produce some of the most beautiful and costly colors known in the art. Cochineal, which has been used to approach the perfection of the ancient Tyrean purple—the royal purple—is superseded by this *orchilla*.

Shortly after this discovery was made known, the Lower California Company began to assume considerable importance before the public. As the sole proprietors of the natural products of the territory claimed by them, they entered into a contract with a gentleman a native of Ecuador, named Don Manuel Cobos, together with others, who styled themselves as Cobos & Co., for the gathering of this moss. An exclusive right to gather it was granted them, the profits to be divided, as is reported, equally between the said firm and the Colonization Company.

This moss is worth two hundred and fifty dollars per ton net delivered in Liverpool; the cost of gathering and shipping the same does not exceed forty dollars, thus leaving a handsome profit to the managers of the enterprise.

Don Manuel Cobos brought to Magdalena Bay one hundred and fifty natives of Ecuador to assist him as gatherers. About \$400,000 worth of the moss has been collected up to the present time.

Trouble with the Colonization Company.

Our informants, Capt. John C. Glidden and Col. E. Gallagher, who arrived on the *Orizaba*, tell us that in all probability the spark of revolution first started at this point in the history we relate.

Don Manuel Cobos & Co., anxious to obtain to themselves the sole profit of their enterprise, and learning that the Mexican Government had taken steps to annul and declare void the session of land to the Colonization Company, was reported to have devised a plan in conjunction with the territorial authorities of Mexico, which resulted in the events hereafter narrated, as obtained from the story told by these gentlemen.

Mexican Frontier Diplomacy.

It is reported that Don Mannel went to La Paz from Magdalena Bay and used \$20,000 in celebrating *fiestas*, giving *bailes*, and feasting the officials of the Department. He became a great and influential man among them. The people were anxious to follow the standard of this generous *caballero* from Ecuador, and the provincial officers were not less inclined to follow his advice, bated we cannot say in what attractive manner. Communications were opened and brilliant offers sent to Guaymas. The days of the Buccaneers had again dawned upon a restless community.

The Revolutionary Forces.

In a short time, seventy regular soldiers, commanded by an officer of the Mexican army, had been seduced to embark from Guaymas and join this new Pizarro. These, together with his 150 *peons* from Ecuador, marshaled by Don Manuel Cobos, Don Francisco Espinosa Gorostiza, Señor Davalos, Gobernador at La Paz, Señores Suzanna Rosas and Sanchez, and, fully armed for an expedition of plunder and conquest, became immediately the revolutionizing power of Lower California.

The Plunder Sought for.

The design of this movement is supposed to have been solely to take possession of the territory, with a view to driving out the regularly constituted Mexican authorities and all foreigners claiming rights under their protection, and to enable the avaricious Señor Don Manuel Cobos to gobble up the entire proceeds of about \$150,000 worth of *orchilla* then gathered and partly ready for shipment. Perhaps the future control of the entire business has also something to do with the matter.

The Scene Prior to the Revolution.

The British iron ship *Comadre* was in the port, loading *orchilla* for shipment to Liverpool. A large amount of the moss was likewise lying on the beach, ready to be taken on board. There were also in port the schooners *Cina Greenwood* and the *Ellen & Catherine*, the property of American citizens. A number of American citizens, the American Consul and others were residing at the place.

The Seizure of the "Greenwood."

Captain Glidden, one of our informants and Master of the *Cina Greenwood*, was awakened between the hours of 3 and 4 A. M. of the morning of October 28th, by loud noises, pistol shots and scuffling upon the deck of his schooner. Upon hastening above, he was confronted with as piratical a scene as ever terrified the eyes of any of those old mythical *capitaneos* who once sailed the Spanish Main with their treasures of silver and gold. Colonel Gallagher and another gentleman whose name we forget, both passengers on board the schooner, were there bound hand and foot, surrounded by an armed band of desperadoes, who had boarded the vessel under command of the *hidalgo* Sanchez. Colonel Gallagher had attempted resistance; a few shots had been fired, luckily for him not taking effect on any one; and now the schooner was at the mercy of the rauders.

Alongside was a boat containing men of the boarding party. Cozostiza, upon being approached by Captain Glidden, presented the ominous muzzle of his navy revolver, and cried, "*Silencia!*"

Don Manuel Cobos, being asked by what authority he had taken possession of a vessel owned and commanded by American citizens, answered: "*Porque tengo la fuerza!*"—"Because I have the power."

Movements of the Revolutionary Pirates.

The *Cina Greenwood* being now under the complete control of the desperadoes, she was put speedily under way, and headed for a point on the Bay known as Coyuco. On the way thither, a boat full of armed men was met, and forty more of the conspirators taken on board.

On the morning of the 29th, the Revolutionists disembarked. The prisoners were taken on shore for a sham trial. Captain Glidden was requested to raise his national colors, which he refused to do, while a *quasi* prisoner of these insurgents. He notified the leaders that they would be called upon to answer for their actions, and that he had abandoned his vessel to them.

Col. Gallagher was tried before Suzanna Rosas, who was constituted judge on the occasion, on a charge of resisting with violence the official authorities of the country. He and his co-defendants, were however, released on parole during the evening.

A man-of-war was being hourly expected to arrive, which made the insurgents more cautious than otherwise they might have been.

The captain, crew and passengers of the *Greenwood* finally sought refuge on board of the English ship *Comadre*.

Flight and pursuit of the United States Consul.

Meanwhile on the 28th, the United States Consul, Cdi. Drake DeKay, was apprised of the events which had occurred. Hastily, with a few others, he gathered together the papers of the Custom House, and documents of official importance, and embarking in the *Ellen and Catherine* they started for the *Comadre*. They were immediately pursued, but gained the side of the ship in time to evade the pirates. Capt. Penrice of the *Comadre*, received them on board, and within the sides of his iron ship they were comparatively safe.

The pursuers, however, followed them to the last, and even boarded the British ship, but were compelled to retire, baffled in their attempt to secure their prisoners.

The *Ellen and Catherine* was retained along side, having been chartered by Colonel Drake DeKay, at the Government expense, as a means of possible escape.

Further Indignities Offered.

The sloop *Allen* was sent with a despatch to the Consul at La Paz, but was followed by those who had taken the *Greenwood*, which was a fast-sailing craft, and captured.

A petition was then signed, by American citizens, to be sent to La Paz overland, requesting the upward-bound steamer from Panama to call in at Magdalena Bay and take off the beleaguered inmates of the *Comadre*. The courier proceeded to the shore in a boat, but was overtaken by the men of Cobos, and, under the peril of his life, forbidden to continue his journey. Search was made for his despatches, which could not be found. Under the circumstances he could not fulfil his mission.

Timely Arrival of the "Constitution."

The position of the inmates of the *Comadre* had become indeed critical, without any hope of immediate succour.

Provisionally, however, the steamship *Constitution*, on her down trip, touched in at Magdalena Bay on the 5th of November. Assistance was then immediately offered to their imperilled fellow-countrymen. All hands embarked on the *Ellen & Catherine*, and under the escort of the *Constitution*, passed out of the bay, when they set sail for San Diego, California.

There were forty persons on board, men, women and children, and were but ill prepared for the arduous voyage in a craft of only thirty-five tons burthen.

On the way north they put in at Cedros Island for supplies of wood and water. For five days they subsisted on beans and rice, and suffered many hardships. In sixteen days they reached San Diego, fortunate in their escape from desperadoes who know neither law nor humanity.

The Orchilla Pirates.

Our informants feel assured that before this time the conspirators have succeeded in their design of shipping all the *orchilla* which had been gathered, and was ready for shipment. They have undoubtedly gained possession temporarily, of the coveted products, and evicted the Colonization Company out of their share of the proceeds. What their position, however, will be in a few months hence, we will not venture to say. Nevertheless, it is a fact, which we chronicle to-day, that our flag has been outraged, and the rights of our citizens have been grossly disregarded, by a band of lawless desperadoes.

A Mad Cow—Mary White has commenced suit in the Fourth District Court, against John Doe Malory, and for cause of action alleges that on the 3d of August last, while walking on Chestnut street, a mad, dangerous and infuriated cow, owned by the defendant, rushed upon her, gored her, threw her down and injured her so severely that she was for three months confined to her bed; that she suffered great bodily pain, spent large sums of money for medical attendance and medicine, and is still in a weak condition. She demands judgment for the sum of \$9,000 damages.