5.

REMINISCENCES OF E.O. CROSBY, ONE OF THE DELEGATES TO THE FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF CALIFORNIA, AND STATE SENATOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE UUDICIARY COMMITTEE DURING BOTH THE FIRST AND SECOND SESSIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA

LEGISLATURE. 1849-50.

Elisha Oscar Crosby is a lineal descendant from Simon Crosby, who, aged twenty-six, arrived from England in the ship "Susan and Ellyn", with his wife Ann, aged twenty-five, and their young son Thomas, in 1635, and settled in Cambridge, Massachusetts Colony. His mother's ancestor was Edward Spaulding, who arrived in 1633, and settled in *PhymothBolom*

12/12

He is, therefore, of the early Puritan stock of New England. He was born July 18th, 1818, in the town of Groton, Tompkins County, State of New York; educated at Cortland Academy, in the town of Homer, Cortland County, State of New York; studied law with his uncle, Elbridge Gerry Spaulding, in the city of Buffalo, N.Y., and was admitted to the Supreme Court of the State of N.Y., at the July term, 1843, Samuel

Nelson, Judge presiding, and admitted solicitor in Chancery by R. Hyde Walworth, Chancellor, July 18th, 1843, it being his twenty-fifth birthday.

wanted to go, he would gave me every facility to get there

of vorv mode, excited about the name of

Reminisences of Elisha Oscar Crosby of why, and when, and how, he came to California, and what he saw and did after his arrival.

In the Fall of 1843, after being admitted to the Supreme Court and Court of Chancery of the State of New York, I went to New York City and associated with Abner Benedict, Esq., in the practice of law. Mr. Benedict was an old lawyer, well versed in Admiralty law, as well as in general practice of



his profession.

When the President's Message was published December 1st, 1848, it was accompanied by the Report of Col. R. B. Mason to the Secretary of War, describing fully the discovery of gold at Sutter's saw mill, in the present County of Eldorado, in January of that year. His was the first authentic public information we had in N.Y. of the gold discovery in California. Howland and Aspinwall, ship owners and merchants of N.Y. were clients in our office and I frequently saw Mr Aspinwall there on business. These gentlemen had contracted with the U.S. Government to build three steamers to run between Panama and Oregon, touching at the ports of California to leave and take on the mails, with berths for 25 cabin passengers, as that number was supposed to be as many as would want to take passage at one time. They had sent the first steamer in September, 1848, to go around Cape Horn, to take its place on the

line from Panama to Oregon, stopping at the ports of California. Mr Aspinwall seemed very much excited about the news of the gold discovery in California, and he said to me that if I wanted to go, he would give me every facility to get there early, and that if I started the first chance for Chagres, and had good luck in crossing the Isthmus to Panama, I would be in time to get on board their steamer "California", which they had started around Cape Horn for Panama and thence up the coast of California. He offered to write to his agents at Panama, Zachrison and Nelson, to put me on board the first steamer that arrived at Panama for California. Mr. Benedict said, "Go by all means, and be gone a year, and when you return your interest in the office shall be continued the same as if you staid with me." They were both anxious to have me go and see for them if these reports of gold were true, and to what extent it was found. I had never been out to sea, and had hardly been out of my native state of N.Y., and I thought it was a good opportunity to have an adventure and see something beyond the routine and drudgery of a law office. I had no idea of what would be a proper outfit of clothing, or anything suitable for a sea voyage and the rough camp life in the mines of California, so I packed two trunks with Broadway made suits, white shirts and vests, and a nice assortment of underclothes, kid gloves and fine boots, without a single red shirt or stogy boots, in fact with nothing suitable for the voyage, and camp life in California.

An inventive genius, who sometimes came into our office, said he had made a gold washing machine, which he knew was just the thing for me to take to California; that I could get two men to help work it, and all I would have to do would be

to stand at the end and collect the gold dust as it run out. Of course, I was delighted with the idea, and took the gold washing machine, as I was anxious to make a good showing of gold when I returned to N.Y., at the end of the year.

All my preparations being made, I found an old steamer was advertised to take passengers to Chagres, with immediate despatch. It was an old side wheel steamer, about six hundred tons burden, that had been cuffing about the Gulf of Mexico during the war, but was considered good enough to carry passengers to Chagres, and as it was the first chance, I got my ticket ready to be on hand the day she was to sail. On the 25th of December, 1848, Christmas day, a cold, drizzling rain and half snow had been falling all day, and in the afternoon I went slopping down to the foot of Cortland Street, N.Y., with channel on the coral Bahama Banks, and the providence which my two trunks and gold washing machine on a dray, and my arms notected so many full of blankets and hand bags, to go on board the steamer "Isthmus", to sail at 5 o'clock for Ghagres, having about 120 passengers. Everything was wet and sloppy on board; no fire or comfort anywhere; and that night in a cold, damp berth, with clothes on, my gold fever had about cooled off, and I made up my mind that in the morning I would give up my voyage and go back to my office. Just before daylight, the morning of the 26th, before I got out of my berth, the steamer swung out into the North River, and steamed away down the Bay for the ocean. It was too late to land, and the Steward said breakfast was ready. I turned out, but toilet accommodations were, in fact, nothing, and with difficulty I got a chance in the crowded wash room to secure enough water to baptise my face and hands. My breakfast was a mockery for the palate of a Wall street lawyer; no milk for coffee; hard sea biscuit,

and such tough meat, and potatoes boiled with their jackets on. It was just as well, for when we were crossing the bar at Sandy Hook, we began meeting the ocean swell. I was among several others leaning against the bulwark of the steamer, settling my first account with Neptune. All the provisions I carried on board were freely given up as a peace offering to the Monarch of the ocean. I did not know then the sovereign remedy of champagne cocktail, which now I find the very best libation to take in honor of the sea god's dominion.

Jim Baker was our captain, for brevity called "Lying Jim". He was assisted by Capt. Wood, who said he had been on one occasion in sight of Shagres; but both Baker and Wood did the constant drinking, while the first mate did the navigation of the old steamer. The third day, we brought up out of

channel on the coral Bahama Banks, and the providence which protected so many'49ers saved us from wreck. The steamer backed out and took another tack, and by good luck we entered the port of Havana, Island of Cuba. It was my first sight of the tropics, and the palm tree, real orange and lemon, with the world of tropical verdure, produced a sensation of delight so new and fascinating, I most readily forgave and forgot my first outing at sea. We staid in Havana two days, and took in coal, with an abundant supply of oranges and other fruit, much to our comfort on our future voyage. We went roving about until we made the north side of the Island of Jamaica, and kept it in sight while we went completely around it, and finally made the harbor and city of Kingston. Everybody went on shore, and the first thing done by the passengers was to lay in a goodly supply of linen clothes, for the change from N.Y. in December to Jamaica was so pronounced, we were all glad to lay aside our coats and woolen for the more comfortable linen fabrics of the tropics. It was a hilarious crowd, and for three days kept the town lively, but in such good humour, the authorities let the boys enjoy the freedom of the city. With some other gentlemen passengers, we went out a few miles to the country seat of the deposed President, Santa Anna of Mexico. He had a delightful place, and extensive and well kept grounds. We were cordially received and he seemed to be well pleased to have us call upon him, for he entered into familiar conversation about the war, and the new gold discoveries in California. I think he was rather glad that the good for tune of finding gold fell to the Americans, so soon after the country had passed to the Government of the U.S. Santa Anna, right or wrong, had been summarily expelled from Mexico, and sought protection under the British flag in its colony of Jamaica Island. From his conversation, he seemed to be a firm believer in the adage that "Republics are ungrateful."

I saw many pretty females among the nearly white descendants of the colored race, with large black eyes and symetrical figures, well developed, and smiling with winning grace as they met the California gold hunters. As a general rule, I think, socially, the white and black races kept apart; while in trade and business they seemed to be on most friendly equality. The merchants and shop keepers were largely English Jews, while the Governor and principal colonial officers were English and natives of England, sent out, or who came out to Jamaica to fill official positions or engage in the leading commercial transactions of the colony. It seemed to me these Englishmen abroad, in one of their colonies, were vastly more English than the English at home, and when several years after I visited England, I found it was a fact, that for clean cut

assumption and impudent importance the English in the British Colony was a much more important man in his own estimation than the Lord on his native isle.

After three days freedom of the City of Kingston, the steamer whistle called the stragglers on board the old "Isthmus", and we steamed away across the Carribean Sea, hunting along the coast for the port of Chagres, which we luckily found without much deviation from our direct course. The entrance to the port and river Chagres is guarded on the left by a bold rock promontory, on which is situated an old fort commanding the entrance; while to the right, the land is low, but rising gradually away to the interior as far as the eye can reach, ending in a succession of hills to the mountains in the far distance, and all these covered with a most luxuriant growth of trees and vegetation, including the palm and cocoanut, the most striking of all the trees and foliage to a North man's eyes, and altogether the scene to me was one of indescribable delight. From the ice, snow, and slush of December, in N.Y., to this full glare and heat of Summer, with linen clothes; with boundless ocean on one side, and the world of tropical verdure on the other, we seemed to be entering another world. The old steamer "Isthmus" kept right straight along at her best speed; barely grazing the rocks on the left, and almost scraping the sand spit on the right, we entered the enlargement of the river, called the port and harbor of Chagres, New Granada, a feat of recklessness no doubt attributable to the quantity and quality of the potations of our two Captains. The town of Chagres consists of about thirty or forty cane-built huts, with high peaked roofs, thatched with palm branches a foot or more thick, which gave shelter from

sun and rain, and placed promiscuously along the shore. The inhabitants are the most squalid set of human beings I had ever seen. It is true, fig leaves were abundant all over the country, but the natives seemed to prefer Nature's self unadorned, unless it was with a Panama hat.

The only way of getting up the river was by "bungoes", or dug out boats, some of them small canoes, while others were of considerable size, capable of carrying eight or ten persons, and a reasonable amount of baggage for each one. I associated with five others, and we hired a large bungo, and a canoe as a sort of tender to help the other, and into the large one we began assorting and transferring our baggage. The last I saw of my gold washing machine, it was going over the side of the steamer, and sank below the waters of the Chagres river. It was the best thing I did on my voyage, for when I got to California, I found all these gold washing machines were utterly worthless, after being thoroughly tried. In fact, afterwards on the beach at San Francisco, and at Sacramento, the wreck of these gold washing machines, made in the East, of every conceivable pattern and design, were among the curiosities of the times.

This bungo voyage up the river was anything but pleasure; the native boatmen, all dressed in dark suits, the same that Nature gave them, looked at least novel, if not picturesque; and as we passed a small stream near Gorgona, we saw some ladies of the country disrobing to take a bath by taking off their Panama hats; that article being all the clothing they had on. At Gorgona, we finished our river voyage, after six days and nights of as wearisome effort as any man could make. We then hired mules and native porters to carry our baggage

to Panama. I chummed with one of the passengers, and hired a mule to ride and tie; that is, one ride a certain distance and the the mule for the other partner to take his turn to ride. The owner of the mule always went along to see that each one had fair play to ride half the distance, and I suspect to see that neither of us went off with the mule. Five days after I reached Panama, much to my delight, the steamer "California" was sighted entering the bay of Panama. She had come around Cape Horn without accident, and as Mr Aspinwall had predicted when I left N. Y., that I would, with good luck in crossing the isthmus, be in Panama in time to go on board for California. It was a close shave of only five days. Cholera had taken some of our passengers to their long rest, and naturally we all felt anxious to get away from Panama.

There had already assembled at Panama by the last of January, 1849, about six hundred passengers from N.Y., New Orleans, Mobile, and other places, all anxious to get passage on the steamer "California", but Capt. Forbes had taken seventy-four Chilenos on board at Valparaiso, and there was not standing room for all the man to go, and only about 250 could be given passage. I met Henry E. Robinson, who was one of the State senators from Sacramento during the three first sessions of the Legislature of California. He was a native of Connecticut, but had been living many years in New Orleans, and had come down to Chagres in the steamer "Falcon", and has crossed the isthmus to Panama, and like myself was seeking a passage to California. Mr. Robinson and myself were lifelong friends from our meeting in Panama in January, 1849, and I allude to him as a prominent Legislator in shaping the commercial and maritime laws, enacted by the Legislature, when a civil government was being first established in California. Mr. Robin-

son and myself had secured our tickets on the "California", and were watching the excited crowd eager to secure a passage. At an indignation meeting held in the streets of Panama, to denounce the agents Zachrison & Nelson for not issuing tickets to all of them, they ever went so far as to propose to take boats and go off to the steamer "California", and seize the steamer by force, and turn out the Chilenos taken on at Valparaiso, and let all who had reached Panama from the U.S. come on board. It was a desperate crowd, and they were all stal-A wert men, well armed, and capable of attempting any desperate enterprise, if fairly instigated. Offers were freely made for tickets already issued of all sums, up to as much as One thousand dollars premium, but no sales were made so far as I heard. Mr. Nelson, one of the steamer agents, told me to have my baggage and myself on the private wharf by dark, the third day after the "California" arrived in Panama bay, and if I did so I would be put on board that night. I was more than prompt to comply with his suggestion, and with some other fortunate passengers was safely taken out to the steamer and put on board. Mr. Nelson told me to get a hammock, and he also had the forethought to put on board a box of eatables, such as could be lunched from if I failed to get food from the table, and it is with feelings of gratitude to Mr. Nelson I recall his kindness to me on that occasion. I have seen Mr. Nelson several times since, and he good naturedly said my letter from Mr. Aspinwall to them had its influence; besides, said he, "I saw you were new to the life and men with which you were surrounded, and stood in need of a little friendly attention." He said he was himself afraid of the crowd, and that was why he sent the

passengers off at night; that he was in a hurry to get the steamer out of sight before any outbreak occurred; that every day he delayed, matters would be growing worse, as hundreds were coming as fast as they could find passage from the States.

Gen. Percifer F. Smith and wife were on board, with his staff, consisting of Col. Joseph Hooker, Major Canby, and others. Mr Alfred Robinson was on board, sent out by Howland & Aspinwall, as their agent at San Francisco. Baron Steinberger was one of the passengers, who figured extensively in getting beef for the steamer and other shipping at San Francisco. I think there were about 250 passengers taken on at Panama, and on the 1st day of February, 1849, the "California steamed out of Panama bay for California.

It was supposed that 25 berths in the cabin were as many

as would be required when the steamer was built and sent from N.Y. around Cape Horn, and these were given up to Gen. Smith and family and his staff, and some other privileged persons, I got leave to swing my hammock amid-ship, which was my bed on the voyage, although I had a rude bunk at my disposal, with the rest of the passengers in the hold of the steamer, and this bunk I utilized for my baggage, preferring my hammock on deck to the stifled air and the rude bunk below deck. It was a hilarious voyage from beginning to end. We stopped at Acapulco and Mazitland for water and provisions, consisting of live cattle, pigs, sheep, and a liberal supply of oranges and banannas. The good feeling of the passengers and the speedy prospect of reaching San Francisco and the gold mines, where each man pictured to himself that he could pick up gold nuggets without much labor, and go home in a year with a fortune, or at least a moderate competence for life. We were the first of the Argonauts from the Eastern States to reach California, after the news of the gold discovery was made public by the publication of Col. Mason's Report. We arrived at Monterey, California, on the 26th of February, as I remember the date, and were supposed to be out of coal. Captain Forbes commenced collecting wood to take the place of coal to reach San Francisco, but on the 27th, some sacks of coal were found under the after cabin floor, and with the wood already collected, we steamed up the coast and entered the Golden Gate on the 28th day of February, 1849, and anchored in front of the little hamlet of San Francisco, outside the mudflat, and not far from opposite what is now the foot of Broadway. The U.S. flag ship "Ohio", Commodore Jones, with two other of his vessels were anchored at Saucelito, but very

little else was seen in San Francisco bay.

There were no boats coming from shore to take us off, and the passengers were from time to time taken in the boats belonging to the steamer, and landed on the rocks at Clark's Point, about where the foot of Broadway then terminated. Many of the passengers camped on the side of Telegraph Hill, in the plaza, now Portsmouth Square, and others found lodgings in such houses as would give them shelter at any price.

I met Dr. Leavenworth, who was Alcalde of San Francisco, and whom I had known in N.Y. before he came to California, and who, as chaplain and surgeon of Col. Stevenson's Regiment, came to California two years before my arrival. He had a small office in the one story building situated on the upper corner of Kearny and Clay streets, opposite the plaza, and he generously offered me the privilege of spreading my blankets in one corner, while he occupied another corner with a

rude bunk he had himself built for his own repose. The night of February 28th, 1849, found me happily ashore, and domiciled with my two trunks and blankets with the chief civil officer of San Francisco City. Reminisences of E. O. Crosby, one of the Delegates to the First Constitutional Convention of California, and State Senator and Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee during both the First and Second Sessions of the California Legislature.

and I Querter

ergy of Unstamala, as well as to all the signature and give

After the adjournment of the California Legislature, May 1st, 1851, and during the years following up to the close of 1859, I was busily engaged in prosecuting land claims, under grants made by Spain and Mexico to the early residents of California. These proceedings were had before the U. S. Land Commission, and on appeals to the U. S. District Court and to

the Supreme Court of the United States at Washington. I found it necessary to go to Washington in the Fall of 1859, to press the hearing of some of these cases pending on appeal before that tribunal.

Thinking to gratify a desire I had long cherished to visit Central America and explore some of the grand old ruined cities described by John L. Stevens, still existing at Copan, Kahlu, and other places in Guatemala, I took passage on the clipper yacht "Julietta", Capt. Dod o, for San Jose de Guatemala, and after a delightful run of ten days went on shore in a surf boat, the only mode of landing in that open roadstead.

Saddle mules for passengers, and other mules for baggage, were the only mode of travel to the interior, and with these I started for the city of Guatemala, situated in a broad upland valley ninety miles from the Pacific. After three days travel through tropical forests on the coast plain, and up the highlands four thousand feet above the level of the sea, brought me to the Spanish Mooresque built city of Guatemala, containing about 60,000 inhabitants.

I had a letter from Bishop Alemany, of San Francisco, recommending me to the kindly attention of the Archbishop and Clergy of Guatemala, as well as to all the Bishops and Clergy of Central America. To say I was most kindly received and hospitably entertained by them, wherever I went, is but faintly acknowledging their attention. I also had letters to President Carrera, to Mr. Hall, acting British Minister, and other gentlemen of the country. They all joined in giving me every facility for exploring and visiting the different parts of the interior, and especially the ancient ruins of cities found by Alvarado, the Spanish Conqueror, and his invading army, in 1523-4.

I spent a month in Guatemala City, making acquaintances among its Spanish and native inhabitants, who retained the same habits and customs of three centuries ago. I organized my mule train and started for the interior, visiting Salama, Kahlu ruins, Coban, Totonicapan, Lolola, Quezaltenango, Carcha ruins, and other places to the north and west, and in two months returned to Guatemala City for a rest. I then started for Copan on the boundary between Guatemala and Honduras, about five days travel southeasterly from the city of Guatemala. (Distance is not measured by miles or leagues in any part of Central America, but by so many days hard riding.) Copan is a wonderful ruin, more than I can describe. Stevens' "Central America", illustrated by Catherwood, will tell the story best. I then passed down the valley of the Molagua, across the Mico mountains, to the town and lake Isabell. At Isabell, I saw a company of men fish out of the lake with a shark hook an alligator, who they said had captured and devoured a child that was playing on the margin of the lake; but they did not find the child, and evidently had made a mistake in the identity of the alligator. The shore of the lake is much frequented by them and it is not surprising that they captured the wrong one. They killed him all the same, because they said he was related to the one that got the child. I went down the Rio Dulce to the bay of Honduras, and up

along the coast, winding our way among the mango covered islands to British Belize, a colony of colored subjects of her Majesty, and where I was obliged to remain ten days for the sail packet to New York, where I arrived in August, 1860.

After visiting my father and mother and the old homestead

in central New York State, I went to Washington City to look after my appealed land cases.

After reaching New York, and wherever I went until I reached Washington, the people seemed to be greatly excited over the question of slavery and the influence it would have in the Presidential election to occur the following November. Some of the southern slave states were threatening to withdraw from the Union if the Republican nominee, Abraham Lincoln, were elected. Living as I had been for more than a decade in California, and just out of months travel in the wilds of Central America, I was bewildered at the public vehemence; I could not realize any cause for the din and uproar over the question of slavery, or that any great harm was to follow the result of the Presidential Election one way or the other. My recollections at that time were, that at every Presidential Election both parties claimed that unless their candidate was elected the Country and Government of the U.S. would surely go to ruin; but my experience had been that when the election was over, and whether Mr Van Buren or Mr Harrison was elected, it was all the same and everything went on again smoothly and prosperously.

I met Vice-president John C. Breckenridge, who expressed the opinion that if Mr Lincoln should be elected that some, and perhaps all, the slave states would revolt and set up a separate government and nation. I asked him what we should do in California. He said of course he hoped we would go with the South, unless we set up a separate government and nation on the Pacific. I told him we would not join the South for we were a free State, and did not care to have any of the col-

ored race in our State, even free negroes, in any considerable number. He said perhaps I was right; that for his part he wished all the negroes were out of the Country, both South and North; that the North were to blame for bringing slaves into the country in the first place, but now they could not abolish slavery in the South unless the people were in some way compensated for that kind of property, without doing great injustice: that he was fearful for the future, because all the men in both sections seemed to be frenzied beyond reason. I told him what I had seen in the colony of British Belize, composed almost wholly of negroes; that they seemed to do better by themselves than when they were associated in anything like equal numbers with the white race; that the same thing was now apparently true in the West India Island of Jamaica. He replied, "No doubt it is true; the English Government have "managed the colored race and everything connected with the "negro better than the people and Government of the U.S."

The United States Minister, Beverly Clark of Tennessee, a protege of Mr. Breckenridge, died when I was first in Guatemala. I rendered Mrs. Clark what assistance I could to close up her affairs, and put her and her family on board a vessel for the United States. Mrs. Clark had informed Mr. Breckenridge of what I had done for her and her family in Guatemala, and I attribute to this fact the attention and friendship he gave me, and the freedom with which he expressed his opinions and talked of the condition of the country and political men and parties.

He took me to see President Buchanan, who made many enquiries about California, and about my visit to Central America and the West India Islands. Mr. Buchanan proposed to ap-

point me U. S. Minister to Guatamala to take Mr Clark's place. Mr. Breckenridge said Yes, it was a proper thing to do. I thanked them for the offer, but told them I was too much interested in California to accept the position, and respectfully declined. I told the President and Mr. Breckenridge I was surprised to find the people so excited about the coming Presidential Election, and the angry threats that came from some portions of the South to withdraw from the Union in case the Republican nominee was elected; that it must be only an election word to be forgotten when the contest was over. They both said No; that it had gone so far they feared the election of Mr Lincoln would result in most serious trouble to the country; that if some more definite understanding and agreement were not made between the North and South than existed at that time, and satisfactory to both sections, that no man could foresee the consequences. They both told me if I had time.to take a trip south as far as Richmond, Charleston, and Savannah. As I had over a month to spare before the Supreme Court would meet, I told them I would act upon their suggestion. Mr. Breckenridge gave me letters to gentlemen in Richmond, Charleston and Savannah.

I first saw men, women, and children slaves sold at auction in Richmond, in October, 1860, and heard what I called treason uttered by men of Richmond against the Government of the U.S. At Charleston, I saw and heard the same thing. The language of treason was still more violent. At Savannah, the same thing as at Charleston, and in all these places I saw enough to be satisfied that mischief was brewing in the slave states. When I reached Charleston, on my return from Savannah, the news of Mr. Lincoln's election was expected at any

moment, and on the second day thereafter the result was confirmed that Mr Lincoln was duly elected President of the U.S. I never saw such frantic demonstrations as those made by the people of Charleston. Bonfires illuminated the city; church bells were ringing from every steeple, and salutes of artillery shook the ground, while the air was rent with acclamations of delight. The public speakers said the long desired time had come, and that in thirty days South Carolina would be out of the hated Union, and Charleston would become the center and metropolis of a great confederation of slave states.

I met an old California friend who was a native of Charleston, that had just returned from California, where he had been connected for many years with the "California Steam Navigation Company". He seemed glad to meet me and took me to his home. He said the people of Charleston were as much excited as they were in San Francisco in Vigilance Committee times and on a much larger scale. He was sorry to see it, but he said they were bent on going out of the Union, and they would do it this time; that he would go with his people whereever they went. He wanted to know what I thought of the situation if South Carolina did go out. I told him it was not very safe to express an opinion only one way in Charleston at that time. He laughed and said I was his guest and an old California friend, and was safe to say what I pleased to him; that he would be glad if I would tell him frankly what I thought would be the result if they did secede from the Union. I replied that we had only to look at the census of the U.S. to be satisfied the great strength in men was largely with the North; that if South Carolina, or any or all the slave states, undertook to go out of the Union and set up an independent

Government, I believed those states going out, or attempting to go out, would be overrun and stamped into the ground; that it was as impossible for any of the states to go out as it would be for any one or more of the counties of England to secede from the Crown and set up a separate government; one side or the other would devastate and destroy its opponent and the original boundary would be maintained. He said it might be so, but he must go with his people. He did go with them, and I afterwards learned went down to death in the early battles of the war.

For prudential reasons I took passage next day on the steamer for New York, passing Fort Sumpter and the other historical surroundings to the fate the people's own acts brought upon them. I returned by the 15th of November to Washington, where I again met Mr Breckenridge, and at his request told him of my experience in Richmond, Charleston and Savannah. From that on, he honored me with his friendship as long as I knew him.

I arranged with Montgomery Blair to aid me with my California land cases, on appeal before the U.S.Supreme Court, during that winter of 1860-61, but I felt great interest in watching Congress during this memorable session of secesh. I witnessed from the gallery the Senators, led by Jefferson Davis, Slidell, Benjamin, Mason, Tooms, Hunter, and all the others, withdraw from their seats, as one after the other of their states withdrew from the Union. It was a sad sight to me.

I became acquainted with the venerable Francis P. Blair, a Jacksonian democrat and one of President Jackson's advisers and associates. He believed there was a solution of all dif-

ficulties between the North and the South without a civil war. His plan was to place the negroes in colonies by themselves in thetropics of Central America, where they could be easily transferred from the southern states across the gulf of Mexico to the vacant lands adjoining British Belize, and in the republics of Guatemala and Honduras. Not enforced emigration but attractive emigration, made so under patronage of the U.S. Government, who should by treaty stipulation open up these desirable lands so near the states of the South, and give such inviting chances to the emigrant, that of his own choice he would seek a new home among his own class and race in that genial climate. By relieving the slave states of all free negroes and all those whose owners would emancipate their

slaves, a rapid lessening of the race would take place. Add to this the passage of compromise laws giving freedom to all children born of slave mothers, and emancipation at a limited age, with such Government bounty to the owner as would be just, that in a reasonable time the South would be peopled exclusively or nearly so by white free men and women instead of negro slaves. These views substantially, he said, were looked upon with much favor by prominent men both North and South. I met Senator Wm. H. Seward very often, as he was an old friend of my father, both living near each other in central New York. I also had friendly acquaintance with Senators Ben Wade of Ohio, Senator James R. Doolittle of Wisconsin, Senator Sumner of Mass., Senator Douglass of Illinois, Preston King of New York; also Senators Jefferson Davis, Slidell, Hunter, Mason, in fact nearly all the Senators from both north and south, as well as many members of the House of Representatives. Hon. E. G. Spaulding of Buffalo, N.Y., my uncle, was a

member of the House at that and other sessions following, and I was a constant visitor at the rooms occupied by him, my aunt and cousin Charlotte, a charming young lady. I often met some of the leading Southern Senators in Vice-president Breckenridge's rooms, to all of whom he introduced me as one of the constitution and law makers who first organized the state government of California. I received much attention from these Southerners, for which I gave Mr Breckenridge credit, as he often told them I was one of his California friends. In this way I mingled freely with both Northern and Southern Senators and members; by so doing I learned the real causes of difference, and the probable course each would take in case no compromises were made.

I expected to return to California soon after the President was inaugurated on the 4th of March, 1861, to renew my practice of law. The latter part of February, it was known in Washington that Abraham Lincoln, President elect, with his family, had left Springfield, Illinois, on his way to Washington to be inaugurated the 4th of March. Strange rumors were afloat that an attempt would be made to assassinate Mr. Lincoln at or before he passed through Baltimore on his way to Washington; but it was so un-American and cowardly, and so new and revolting to our republican institutions, that very few gave credence to the story. I heard it mentioned among a party of Congressmen from the South, and they all scouted the idea as preposterous; that no Southern man would countenance any such act, and they alleged the rumor was started by the Abolitionists to Unflame the Northern people against the slave holders of the South; they said that such a crime would hurt the South more than the North, and would settle nothing.

About the 20th of February, I called at the National Hotel, and when I met my uncle, Mr Spaulding, he asked me if I had seen Mr Lincoln. I answered, No; that he was not expected for two or three days. "Mr Lincoln is in Washington", said Mr Spaulding; "he arrived last night and I have seen and talked with him. He will be inaugurated on the 4th of March, in the same way and in the same place as the other Presidents. There are plenty of loyal men who will be on hand to see it done." I expressed my satisfaction and that there was no lawful reason why he should not be inaugurated as all the other Presidents had been.

I went to the gallery of the senate chamber that morning, and for the first time saw Abraham Lincoln. He came into the senate chamber with Senator Wm. H. Seward, a moderately sized man, while Mr. Lincoln was a head the tallest, and instinctively I called to mind Dr. Robert Semple, the President of our first Constitutional Convention at Monterey, in 1849. They were the counterpart the one of the other in personal appearance. The business of the Senate was suspended for a few moments, and most of the Senators were presented to Mr. Lincoln; the Southern Senators as well as those from the Northern states, except a dirty Senator from Texas, named Wigfall, who generally sat in the Senate picking his nose and rolling pills with what he extracted from that organ of his face.

Southern states were seceding; excitement ran high, and history was being rapidly made in and out of Congress. The sonorous voice of Senator Hale of Vermont seems almost to float down the years of time and reach my ears as I relate the incidents then transpiring, when he said, "Stand to the right. "Let justice be done, and the Union will surely survive."

Night seemed to have lost its claim for rest and sleep; not only every window in the capitol, but every hotel and house window seemed aglow with light; messengers and express riders were hurrying through the streets summoning Senators, Congressmen, Governors of States, and State Legislators, who had crowded to Washington; and these in counsel might be found in every part of the city.

A day or two before the inauguration, Mr Montgomery Blair informed me that Mr Lincoln had selected his future cabinet, and that he, with their advice, had completed the list of appointments to be made of all the foreign ministers; that I had been selected for appointment as Minister Resident to Guatemala, Central America. I told him it would be a great sacrifice

to accept the position, because of my connections with land claims in California; that I fully appreciated the honor of being one of the thirty-two foreign ministers of the Government of the U.S., and thanked him as well as the President and his future cabinet for the honor and distinction they had designed for me. Mr. Blair then explained to me the wish of Mr. Lincoln, and of his friends in and out of office, to secure some convenient and healthy country in the American tropics for a colony of the free blacks, including the slaves that might be freed; that his father, the venerable Francis P. Blair, was enthusiastic over the project, and that several Southern members of Congress, as well as an official gentlemen of great wealth and influence in the South, as well as the North, were earnest supporters of the measure. He said they all regarded it as a peace measure, as well as for the best interest of the colored race, to secure them homes by themselves, under the protection of the Government of the U.S. He urged that the conflict of race between the whites and blacks would come up in any measure between the sections of the country, and it was the opinion of Mr. Lincoln and his friends, as well as many others, that such a colony would be a safety valve for the escape of the black race in a greater or less proportion during the impending crisis which seemed to be upon the country, on account of this very race, and its relation to the whites. "Go with me at once to see Mr Lincoln", said he, and we went to his rooms at Willard's Hotel. I was introduced to Mr. Lincoln amid a crowd of people, but Mr. Blair in a few words explained my situation. Mr. Lincoln held out his hand, which I took, and he seemed to read my very thought when he said, "The loyal men of the land are offering their fortunes

"every day to the Government: that is to be expected; but when "what plan do you proper " tak" "so many good men offer their lives, it is another thing." He said several other things which I will not attempt to repeat. I told him I had no reply to make except to have him assign me to the position where he thought I could do the most good. He replied, "That is right and patriotic."

I was nominated for confirmation to the Senate, with a large list of others, but Col. E. D. Baker, Senator from Oregon, claimed to dictate all appointments from California as well as Oregon, and as my name had not been submitted to him in the first place, he raised some delay to the confirmation. Mr Seward, the new Secretary of State, sent Baker a note, stating that he would credit my appointment to New York State, which he did, instead of California, as my family were his neighbors and he knew me well and he wished my appointment confirmed. Col. Baker gave his life to the nation, and that alone should and did obliterate all animosity on my part to

his memory.

My commission, as Minister Resident to Guatemala, is dated March 22nd, 1861, and I was notified by Mr Seward to hold myself in readiness to proceed at once to my post of duty. I received my passport and instructions in a few days, and went with Montgomery Blair to see President Lincoln to take his final instructions, when he said to me: "Mr Crosby, "make friends for your Government wherever you go; we need "friends now, however few, for we are going to have trouble. "Do the best you can for your Government." He said a few words about my special mission and its importance. This is the last time I saw Mr Lincoln.

I sailed from New York the 10th of April for Aspinwall. Col. Totten, the chief engineer and manager of the Panama R.R.

was a passenger, and he gave me an interesting account of the difficulties he experienced in its construction. Col. Totten said the story was not true that it had cost a life for every tie laid for the road, but it was true the loss of life was something enormous; that the white men, both officers and laborers, from the North withstood the climate far better than the natives or blacks that came from the West India Islands; in fact, if the whites took proper precautions, there were no more deaths among them than occurred in the same number employed on the works along the banks of the Mississippi river.

We were late in reaching Aspinwall, and Col. Totten said I would be behind time at Panama to take the steamer up to Guatamala. He, however, telegraphed at Aspinwall to Panama for the steamer to wait for the U.S. Minister. So the steamer waited twelve hours, and this is the first and last time I ever was the cause of an ocean steamer waiting for me on account of my official position.

On arriving at Guatemala, I very soon opened the subject of colonization by citizens of the U.S., without mentioning the black or colored race exclusively. President Carrera and his minister said"Yes, we will be glad to have them, especial-"ly to populate the eastern part of the country along the bor-"ders of the Atlantic." I told them some of the free colored people would want to come, and they said there was no objection.

Some of the omnipresent reporters in Washington got hold of the colonization project, and made such outrageous reports of an infamous plot to force the Central American states to take all the southern slaves, as fast as they could be liberated by the armies of the Government, and made such a mess of

the whole thing in the papers that when they were received at Guatemala the President and his cabinet were quite alarmed. I could but laugh at the absurdity of the whole thing, and when their fears were quieted by considering the fact that such proceedings were utterly impossible, they were disposed to join with me in the merriment. Referring to the subject of colonization, President Cerrera was very anxious to have citizens of the U.S. come and settle in the country. At the same time he said only a limited proportion could be of the colored race.

Events culminated so rapidly in the U.S. after the firing upon Fort Sumpter that the colonization scheme was lost sight of in the great struggle of arms.

I am inclined to the opinion that Gen. Grant was right when he favored the acquisition of Santo Domingo, during his term of President. In his Memoirs, page 550, he says: "It is "possible that the question of a conflict between races may "come up in the future as did that between freedom and slavery "before. The condition of the colored man within our borders "may become a source of anxiety, to say the least. But he was "brought to our shores by compulsion, and he now should be "considered as having as good a right to remain here as any "other class of our citizens.

"It was looking to a settlement of this question that led "me to urge the annexation of Santo Domingo during the time I "was President of the United States.

"Santo Domingo was freely offered to us, not only by the "Administration, but by all the people, almost without price. "The Island is upon our shores, is very fertile, and is capa-"ble of supporting fifteen millions of people. The products "of the soil are so valuable that labor in her fields would "be so compensated as to enable those who wished to go there "to quickly repay the cost of their passage. I took it that "the colored people would go there in great numbers so as to "have independent state government by their own race. They "would still be States of the Union and under the protection "of the general government, but the citizens would be almost "wholly black."

I have noticed now going on in the Century Magazine an animated discussion upon this very question of conflict between races in the Southern states, conducted by two Southern men, Mr Cable on the one side and Mr Grady on the other side, both gentlemen of learning and ability but quite opposite in opinion.

I have seen Santo Domingo and can verify all Gen. Grant says in its favor, and when the subject of annexing it to the United States was being considered by Congress I gave my opinion in writing, at the request of one of the members of the

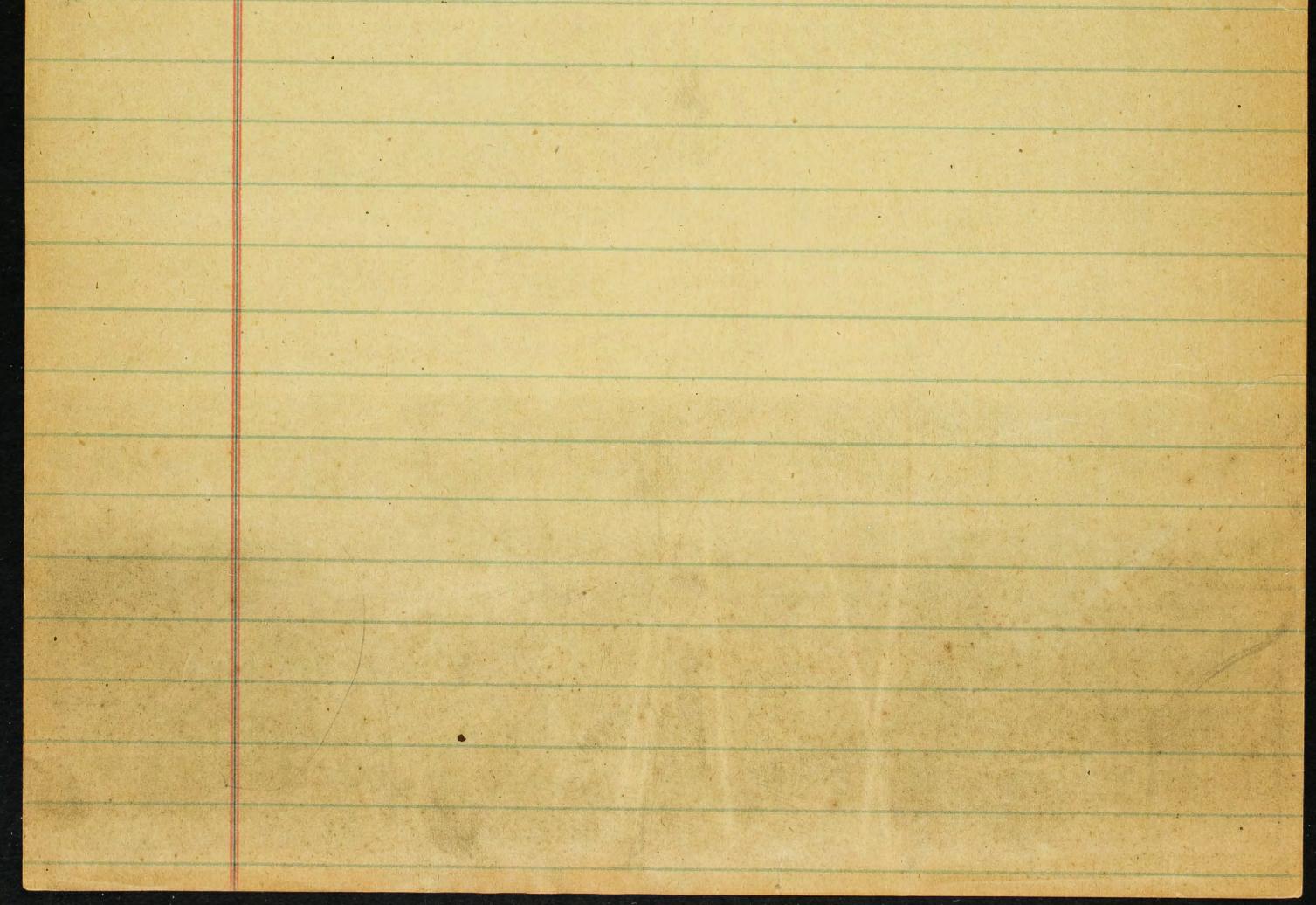
House **Co**mmittee on Foreign Relations, approving the annexation of this desirable portion of the Islands to the United States. It would be far better for both the white and colored races, than an attempt to colonize any portion of the Central American tropics. Besides, we are about the only great nation that has no territory where coffee and many other tropical productions can be successfully raised, or where one and a half million invalids in the United States ought to be provided with a tropical country where they can safely go and live under their own flag. The acquisition of Alaska was good, but Santo Domingo would be many times better. It can be easily and cheaply reached from all the Atlantic ports, while to reach the great sanitarium of California has been, and is now an expensive undertaking to those living east of the Mississippi, and along the Atlantic slope.

I returned from Guatemala to New York in time to go to Washington and see the great review of the armies under Gen. Grant and Gen. Sherman, at the close of the war; consequently, I saw none of the actual fighting. "Let us have peace."



reports of the proceedings of the convertion, there was, much said, and with considerable Triling on the part of the nation californian, in Java Ja Foritorial form of Goot but the fact was so apparent that the quit body of deligates win finnly in favor of a state love complete in all di parti, that My kilbert offince the following Prodution "that it is expedient, that this convention now proceed to form a state constitution" Ayes Mehn Aram, Both, brasby, but, Divick. Ellis, Swin, a hilbert, Hoppe, Hobson, Hallick, Hastings, Hollingsworth Jours, Lastin, Supprieott, Moon. Mc burry, Anton, Ora Price, Sutter Snyder, Showood Shannon, Seniple Vallijo, Wogenicraft, 28. Mays Foster, Hill, Ruid, strains, Pico, sifft, barillo, Rodriguez, S., This decisive vote settled the question of a state, bout tution, and no more was heard of a feritory the great excitions throughout the county our The gold discovery, had no doubt much influence To Enlan our ideas of the desting of California, Hu rapid innigration from not alone the Eastern state, but from Every civilised nation ofthe world, forwand the delegates that a Comptet and markind and hove was absolutely massing, to control the turbulence of the mighty hosts that were gathering within our it inpossible to wait for the direction of a home

host. Differ a crast this continue as Washington



This reply and speech of Ir Sivie was will timed and in good tasty, ... An Anyder Said hi was glad to huar it. He would nominate his old friend &r Robert Simple. a fit representative pionen who came by on gold was discound I was favorably imprise or Swin Java from that time, because he was so Senseble in his reply to snyder's not very courtious Engining, Jacob. R. Smyder was the personification of that blunt hoursety characteristic of the frontiersman of the M.S. and was a valuable miniber of the convention, he was during the rest-ofthe Lession on internate tirris with or Swin, and Ibelieve Jast friends through the years following: there was nothing seen or heard of Dr Swin printed dreept Spa constitution after this first seem in the convention for Swim had a druft of the couste: Tution printed to be used by the commution. and it was prepared by him, as Ibilicor, to facilitate the work of the convention and not in any manner to forestall its opinions It was soon made manifest that a large majorily of the deligates favored a state Govt. complete in all its parts instead of a Lenitorial, or other timporary organication. The mation baliponnia deligates forward a scritorial Goot, and some few of the Early pionicis win disposed to join this this gave

as This prason for a scortonal good. that the population was too small and the country too poor to maintain a state boot, and defray the outlay neccesary for state buildings, and the other express of maintaining state officers, Consideration of this kind wire regarded by the large majority as not worthy of Arivier consider ation, for it was estimated at that time by those Mowly arrived from the Eastern state, that one hundred thousand person would aminine balls Jornice mittin The year 1849, Desides the large anount of gold actually taken out duyby day, July answired the question of our ability to pay the express of a state hout. Both Shannon Swin, Hallide, Norton, Sugder, Hastings, Sherwood Fofft. Vermule, and other build myself wer strongly in Javon of a frilly organised State how ?. Gent Rily was Econcet and outspoken in favor of a State Govt, and his opinion had grait wight with some of the nation balifornia delegate. he bent Kilay's first commencation to the conven -tion he said you have an important work bifors "you the laying of the corner stone of the state Structure and the stability of the Edifice will depend upon the " character of the form dation which you establish your materials are good; let it never be said that the " builders lacked Skill in putting them Together" While it does not appear in the storographic

rooms Similarly Situated; the fact was we wire this at great personal inconvencence and prenning loss in time and money; Aque often deligatis had come over land from san Disgo Los Ayelis, and Districts to the South, and San Jose to the cast, but most ofthe northern delyales want down on the Panana Strangrow Saw Francisco, that Sailed Sept 12 and knidly Stopped at Mouting for our accoundation, The cours vention did not get at this organisation mutil The 3d br. M. Swin had the authin . of a constitution mostly Taken from the consti-- Tition of the States Lowa, with liberal blank Spaces, to be used for modifications; or enterely new Sections, It was reported among the deligates that & non have come down to rein the convention with The Expectation of bring the President of that body, and with his pocket, full of a printed constitution he had propand to but hunself and friends, In Expected the deligate, to do little Else than to Sanction or Givins proposition Auch proceedings were of course Entirely inade missible in such a body of men, and I think this was hardly one of that body but mally believed he could make as good or bitter cousts thation himself thanks Iwin, at all wints the for who had any hisitation about his own ability was Satisfied with a little help in remodeling the constitu-

From ophis mation state, A would supersed . any thing dr. Grow could propose. Besides or Swin had openly expressed his intention to be our of the M.S. Smaton Brown the new state, and these causes combined, had forstalled an impust projudice against him. When the promanus President was about to be proposed and Elected, Jacob, R. Suyder, ou of the deligates from Sacramuto District. an griat friend and admirer of bal John &, Frimont with whoir Sunderhad Served in the conquest-of California. Now up in his place and electrified us all by statuy in his strutorian voice, that In had undirstood Do know had come down to Monterey to run the countine, by becoming it President and had his poets to full of a printic constitution machy to be adopted, in looked over toward, or Swin who had already gained his fut, and askid him if there with any truth in such report. Dr. gwin replied that he had no such disigns, and with no heat or excitiment, Told the members his wish to act as a member without office, and deliberate with them in forming the bust constitution for california yany stating the mion, that he like Many ofthe deligates was new in the country and would prefer to su some one older resident of Californin placed in the highest office of the convention

Considerable interest, as well as comosity was manifested, by the deligates. as they accombled at Monterry, They soon almost all entire strangers to each other, and the duties they were called whow to perform wire of momentuous importance; that of Join ding a State, as vast as an Empire, by giving it a civil forement in harmony with, and to become a part of the United Statis, How would they harmonice in So great a work, was a question that naturally suggested. itself to one and all, as they mot for the first time. I will give the nativity of thiddy gates, and This ages, as they then selves reported to the bouvention Eleven som born in New York State, To wit; Jouph Aram, 39. ff1+ Elani Brown, 52, W.S. Shunwood 32, H. W. Hallick 32, ED brosby 32 IC. H. Dimmich 34. R. M. Price 30. Henry A. Fift. 26, B.S. Sippincott 34 Edward ulbert 27. A.J. Ellis, 33, 17 Sover win bom in California - M.G. Vally's. 42. Manuel Doningnez 46 A.M. Rico 40, Jacinto Rodriguez 36, Jose Anto, Carrillo 53, P. A de la Suerra. 36, J.M. Bovarubras. 40, 151 Maryland five, J. D. Hoppe 35, P. Ord 34. W M Stanast 49. fille, H. Hollingsworth 25, Joseph Hobson 39. Ohio Hora I. Mr. Hastings 30. O M Wogencraft. 34 John Me 137 Dougal. 32. Rentucky Three MM Mc Carver 42, J M Jonis 25. 1-51 Robert Sample 42, Verginia Three. Cha? J. Botts 40, Joch P. Walker 52, Henry Hill 33. +3+

Massachusetts, Ino. Thas O. Laskin 47, Abil Steams 54 The following States and foreign countries one Each Pennsylvania - Jacob R Suyder. 3.4. Conneticutt - Julian Hanks, 39. Missouri _ Furis Dent. 26. Maine - Stiphin le. Foster 28. New Jersey- Thes I Vermule, 35. Vermont - Myron Norton 27. Hondu - Benj. F. Moore 29. Whoch Island, Francis J. Lippett 37. Jennesser. M. M. Livin, 44. Avitzerland - John A Sutter, 47. Franci Mabro Sansevain 31. Scotland - Ango, Reid 38. Ireland - WE Shannon 27. Spain - Miguelai, Pedrovena, 41. Accommodations for Strangers at Monterry nor very limited in 1849, and very few had a spare room or bed for use or him to the arriving deligates, but the prople of Montery was hospitable and knich harted, and as most ofthe delegates brought their comping Handlin, we found not much dificulty in getting a place to spriad them. Thad sig or seven room mates, in a lay room in one ofthe adobe buildings, and with a cot on which to spread our blankets win win comfortably bistowid. Considerable discussion as to the busines in hand, washad in that room as well as in other

Remusaion of Elistice Acar brosty, on ofthe Deligates to the first bonstitutional bouvertien of lealifornia hild at Monterry Sept. 1- 10 Odobr 13 - 1849. Command ofthe military forces of the M. S. and Tool possision of that command sally in 1849. The pricise date of the exponentient I do not recalled By virtue offic military authority mider The Spanish or rather the Musicanlaw, he was Exoppicio hormor of balifornia, and as such Exercised and administered such cive purction, as he thought the condition of the country demanded, and in Auch manner as he understood the law to bi in all cipil cases. bougres during to Sussion of 1848-9, failed to make any promision for a civil goot, either sere torice or otherwise, and find Riley Joching the imperative recessity for some and of avil anthoning, outside of that confired by writer of his military power, saw with much regret That congress had adjourned without making any such provision. HE took the mepousibility of issung his proclamation dated Jun 3" 1849, Calling upon the people to Elect deligates in the ten district of california, to assemble in

convention at montany sept. 1. The ment, to frame a state constitution or a fortomal organ isation, to be kubmitted to the people for their ratification, and then proposed to congress for is approval, The chetion of delegates under This proclamation was field, Augt. 1. 1849, and forty eight dilegates answered by assembling at monting sept. 1, as follows, San Dicso: Harry Hill, Miguel de Pedrorence 2 Jus Augelis; Hugo Reid, Stephin, b. Foster Abel Stearns. . 5 2 Jose Antonio barrillo Manuel Dominguez. Santa Barbara: Bollo rala Europa Jan Luis Obispo: Henry A. Fifft. J. M. bovarubias 3 1 2 4 Monterey: H.W. Halleck, Thomas, Oliver Lastin, Fewie 5 6 DENT. Chas, J. Botts. Jacinto Rodriguez, Pacificus ard, 7 San Jon; J. D. Hopps, Jouph Aram, Elam Brown 6 Julian Hanks, Temball H. Dimmick, Proco Sansevain. Aantonis. M. Pico 8 San Francisco; Rodman M. Price, Joseph Hobson, 7 Myron sorton Mr. M. Stenast, A.J. Ellis. Edward hilbert M. M Swin. Francis J Lippett 3 Sonoma: Mariano G. Vallijo Joie, P. Walker, 8 Robert Semple 8 Sacramento; Jacob R, Snyder, Minfield Scott Sherwood. 01 L. W. Hastings, John A. Sutter John Mc Dougal. Elisha Oscar brosby. M. M. Mc barvir. W.E. Shannon 6 San Joaquin: J. Mc. H. Hollingsworth, O.M. Wogeneraft. 19. the L. Venule Benj. S. Lippincott B. J. Moore J.M. Jours

" man within aur bordins may become a Source " of anicity to say the least But he was. " brought to aur thoris by compulsion, and he " Moio should be considered as having as good a " right to remain him as any other class four atizen, It was looking to a settlement of this quistion, that "Ild mu to urge the annexation of Sainto Domingo during " the time I was President of the Monited States, " Santo Domingo was freely offered to us, not only " by the administration, but by all the prople, almost a without price. The sland is upon our thores. " is very fortile, and is capable of supporting fifteen " million of people. The products of the soil are so " Valuable that labor in hirfields would be so com " -pensated as to Enable those who wished togo there " to quickly repay the cost of their passage, Itook it that " the colored prople would go thering rat numbers " So as to have independent State government by their , own race, Hing would still be States ofthe Union " and under the protection of the receival government, " but the citizens would be almost wholey black," I have noticed now going on, in the Couting Maga -zinc, an animated discussion upon this very question of couffict between races in the Southern Statio, conducted by two Southern men, Mr bable on the one sedeana My mady on the other side _ both quitterin of harning and ability but quite opposite in prinion I have sein Santo Domigo. and can verify all.

hul brant Days in its facor, and when the Subject of anivering it to the Muitid Status I gave my opinion in writing at the request of our of the manber of the Touse Committee on Foreign Relations approving the aringation of this disirable portion of the Island, to the Amited States It would be far better for both white and colored races Than an attempt to colonise any portion of the central American Tropics -Besides nor an about the only great nation that has no tritony where coffee and many other tropical productions can be successfully reised, or when one and a half million invalids - with a tropical country under their owne flag - The acquisition of Mastia was good, but santo Domingo would be many times better- It can be easily and chiaply reached from all the Atlantic porte- while to reach the great Aquitarium of California hasbuir and is now, an Expension undertaking to those living East of the Mississippi, and along the Atlantic Mapr. I returned from matimala to no york in term to go to Washington and In the great review of the armies under Gevel mant and Hick Shorman at the close of the war, consequently I saw nou ofthe actual bighting "Inter have place"

the Story was not true, that it had cost a life for every tis laid for the road, but it was true. the loss of life was something mornious, that The white men both officers and laboursis from The north with stood the climate far better than the native or blacks that cami from the west India Island, in fact if the white Tools proper precutions, then no mon drath, among them, than occarried in the same number suployed on the M win lat in maching Aspinvall and Gol Fotten said I rissill biblind tim at Panance to take the Stranger up to matimala, In however telegraphed at Aspenwall to Panames for the stramer to wait for thi US Minister, So the Strainer waited twelve hours, and this is The first and last time I som was the cause of an Ocean Strawer waiting for min account of my Official position. An amining in materiala I very soon opined the subject of Colonisation by citizens ofthe M.S. roithout mentioning the black or colored rece Exclusively - President Camera and his Ministers Said yes, mowill be glad to have Thim, Espicially to populate the Eastorn part of the country along the borders of the Atlantic I told three Some ofthe free colored people would want to come and they daid them was no objection

Some of the onnipresent reporter in Washington got hold of the colonisation project, and made Such autragious reports of an infamous plat to force the contral American Statis to take all the Southern Alavis as fast as they could be librated by the armin of the Goot and made such a muss ofthe whole thing, a thipaper that when they were received in quaternalu, The President and his Cabinet win quite alarned I could but laugh at the aboundity of the whole thing, and when their francin quictic by considering the fact that such proceedings were atterly impossible they were disposed to join with me a the minimute Refering to the Subject of colouisation. President Cancra was very anyion to have cetyen ofthe U.S. com and settle in the country at The Same Time he said only a limit tid proportion could be ofthe colored race; Events culminated so rapidly in the Mis, after the pering upon Fort Sumptir that du Colonisation Scheme was lost sight of in the great Struggle of arus, I am inclined to the Opinion that bent hant was right which favored the acquisition of Santo Domnigo, during his tim of President In his Alteriois page 550, he Days. "It is possible that the question of a couffict betweene " vacis may come up in the fiture as did that between a freedom and Maving before, The condition of the Colored

He said they all regarded it as a prace micesere as well as for the best interist of the colored race to secure them hours by themselves under the protection of the good of the M.S. He unged that the conflict of race between the white and black, would commup in any measure between the sections ofthe country and it was the opinion of Mr Lucolin and his frinds as will as many other that such a colony riverild be a safety valor for the Escape of the black race an a greater or his proportion, during the impariding crisis which sumid to be apon the comity, or account of this very race and its relation to the white. Go with me at ouce to be the Licoli, Said he and we want to his room at Willaids Hotel -I was introduced to Mr Lucola amid a crowd of people, but the Blair in a frow words Explained my situation, the Lucola held out his hand which I took, and he sund to reading very thought, when he said, that the loyal mon of the land are offering their fortunes, even, day tothe Goot: that is to be expicted; but when so many " Jaid several other things which I will not allemp to represt. I told him I had no reply to make Except to have from assign me to the position when hi thought I could de the most good - he replied "that i right and patriotic I was nounded for confirmation to the Senate with a large list of others, but bol E. D. Baker Sunator

from Brigon claimed to dictate all appointments from Balifornia as well as oregon, and as my hame had not bur submitted to him in the first place In vaised Dowe delay to the confirmation Mr. Siwand, the new secretary of State but Baker a not stating that he would credit my appoint: to den york state, instraid plalifornia, as my Janily win his mighbour and hi than me will and he wished my appointment confirmed. bol Baker gave his life to the mation and that alou should and did obliterate all animosity on My part to his menory. My Commission as Minister Resident To Untuala is dated March 22, 1861. and Iwas notified by Mr seward to hold mysilf in radiness to proceed at over to my post of duty, I received my pasport and instructions in a few days, and with . • Montgomen, Blair to see President Lincoln to take. his final instructions, when he said to millebrosby "make friends for your goot when veryou go, we need friends now however few, for we are going to have Trouble, do the best you can for your Fortilu Said at woords about my spicial mission and it, importance This is the last time I saw Mr Lincoln. I sailing the tinth of April for Aspinoall. tool Tottem the chief Engineir and Manager of ofthe Panama R R was a passinger and higave man interisting account of the difficultur In Experienced in its construction, bol dotten said

morning and for the first time Saw Abraham Lincoln HE came into the small chamber with Senator M. H. Seward a moderately Sized mice while Mr Lincoln was a head the tallest and instinctively I called to mind & Robert Semple the President of our first constitutional convention at monterey in 1849: they win the counterpart the our of the other in personal appearance, He business of the Smath was suspended for a for moments and most ofthe function wire prisuited to the Lincola - The Souther Senator as will as those from the northern State except a dirty levator from Finas manual miggall who generally Sat in the Quate picking his more and roling pills with what he Extrated from That organ of his face, Nan high, and history was bring made in, and out of congress - the Sonorous voice of unator Hale of Vermont Ageins almost to float down the years of time and mach my Earis I relate the incidents This transpiring, which he said; Stand to the right "let justian be done and the Union will Surely Sarvive" Night Since to have lost it claim for net and Alexa, not only Every window in the capitol but Every hotel and house window seemed aglow with light messingers and Expressiders were hunging through the Struty Summoning Suators

congression, governors of States, and State ligislators who had crouded to Washington and there in consel might be found in Every part of the cety. A day or two bifor the inauguration Mr. Mout: going Blair informed mu that My Inicolu heid Selected his priture cabinet and that hi with their advice had completed the list of appointment, to be made of all the foreign ministers - that shad Our selected for appointment as Minister Residuet To Guatimala Contral America. · I told him it would be a great sacrifice to . accept this position because of my connetions with land claimin lealifornia, that I fully appreciated the hour of bring one of the thirty two foreign Minister of the Goot of the U.S. and Thanked him as well is the President and his fecture cabinit for the house and distinction they had dreigned for me. Mr Blair the Explained to me the wish of Mr Lincoln and of his friends in audout of Office to Accine Some convenient and healthy country in The American tropics for a colony of the frie black, includigthe Alaws that might be freed, that his father the Venerable Trances P. Blair was Enthusiastic over the project, and that Sweral Southern Members of congrus as will as an official quittening quat · wealth and influence in the southers will as the north win Earnest Aupporters of the masure-

Hon E. G. Spaulding of Buffato N.Y. my Uncli- was a member that and other Ressions following. and I was a constant visitor at the voois occupsed by him. my anit and consin Charlotte a chaming your lady, the is now a wife, the mother of toward doughters as charming as horself . . I often met Dome ofthe huching Southern Senators in Via President Breckurides Noons, to all of whom he intro = - duced me as one of the constitution and law makens who first organised the state Goot of Californice I received much attintion from this Southurnas for which I gave ille Breckinsida credit as he often Told this Iwas our ophis california friends . In this way I mingled freely with both Morth and South Senators and members, by So doing I havid the real causing differ Ence, and the probable course Each would take in case no compromises were made. I Expected to return to balifornia doon after the President was incugarated on the 4th of March 1861. to renew my practice of Fair. The latter paid of February it was known in Thiskington that Abraham Lincoln Breander die with his family had lift springfield Illuson on his way to Washington to be manyurated the 4" of March

Strange rumors wer affort that an attrupt would be miach to assassinate the Lincoln at a bifore he passed through Baltimore on his way to Washington, but it was so unamerican and covardly -Mathod, and So new and revolting to our republican institutions, that very few gave creduce to the Story, I heard it mentioned among a party of congressmen from the south, and they all scontact the idade and proposterous, that no southin man would countr name any such act, and they allyd the remon sous started by the abolitionists to uplane the northern proph against the slave holders of this South, that such a crime would hunt the south mon then the north, and would settle nothing -About the 20th of February I called at the National Hotel and when I mich my auch Mr Spaulding he asked mig I had seen Mr Swich auswering him, no, that he was not appeted for two a thin days _ Mr Lincoln in Washington said the spacelding he arrived last night and I have seen and talked with him he will be enoughratice on the 4th of Minch in the security and in the Same place as the other Presidents; Then an plant, loyal man will bi on hand to Suit down I syperessed my Satisfaction and that them was no lawful mason why hi should not be inaugurated as all the other Prisidents had been, I wout to the falling of the smath chamber that

m with my land case in appeal by on the M.S. Supreme Court, diring that white of 1860.61, but I felt great interest in watching congress during this mensorable session of seerch , I withered from the galery, the Smaton led by fifterson Davis, Stickle, Banjamin, Mason Joons, Hunter, and all the other with draw for their seals, as our after the other of this Stati withdrew from the Union - Hovara Sad sight to me, I bream acquainted with the tructable Francis P Blair a facksonian democratand our of President factoria advisers and associatis. He believed this was a Solution of all deficulties between the north and the south withour a covil war. His plan was to place the negroin colonies by themselves in the bopies of central merica when they could be easily transfirid from the southing states across the gulf of Minico to the Vacant land, adjoining British Beligi, and in the republics of materiala and Houduras. Not cuforced Emigration but attraction made To ender patronage of the M.S. gove who should by triaty Stipulation open up this desirable land so mar the states ofthe south - and give Auch inviting chances to the Emigrant that of his own choice hervould but a new home anong his own class and race in that gonial climate

By velicoing the slave states gallfree negroes and all those whose ownen would Emancipate this slave, a rapid lessing of the run would take place. add to this the passage of compromise laws giving friedom to all children born of Alaon mothins and Emancipation at a limited age with such host bounty to the owner as would be just that in a reasonable time the south would be prophil Exclusively or many so by While frie men and women instind, of nego blaves This views substantially win looked upon with much favor by prominet men both north and South Treas invited by ald the Free P Blue, Herry the mainte prize and leaded Jerry bern with panding and the the Breit a distatione tode and plater prove and point the ment prover the structure in the pairs I mit Senator M. H. Suvard very often as he was an old friend of my father, both living near Each other in contral New york - I also had friendly acquaintance with Amaton Ben Wade of Ohio- Acuator Janus R Doulittle of Wiscousin Senator Summer of Mass. Senator Douglass of Illinois_ Preston King of Arw york, Semators Jefferson Davis from both north and south, as well as many members of the

Mr Tincoln wanduly Electic President ofthe M.S. I never saw such frantie demonstrations as those made by the people of Charliston, Boufins illuminated the city. Church bells were ringing from Every Steple, and Salutis of artiting shook the ground while the air was ment with a celas mations of delight - ? The public sprakens said the long desire time had come, and that in thirty days, South Carolina would be out of the hated Union and Charliston would become the center and metropolis of a grat confederation of slave States. Initan old California friend who was a

matur of Charleston, that had just returned from California, When he had been connected for many years with the "California Stram Navigation Company" He Scenned glad to meetme and toph me to his home _ He said the prople of Charleston wire as much Excited as they wire in Sau Francisco in Vizilance Committee times and on a much larger Scale, he was sorry to sicit but he said they were bent on going out of the Union, and they will do it this time, that he would go with his people wherever they went. He wanted to know what I thought of the Situation if South Caro line did go out. I told him it was not wery lage to Express an Opinion, only one way, in Charleston at. that time _ He langun and Said I were this quest and

an Old california friend, and was safe to say what Ipleased to him. that he would be glad of I would tell him frankly what I thought would be the result if they did Accede from the Union. Ireplied that we had only to book at the Errens ofthe M.S. To be satisfied the great strugth in man, was largely with the north, that if south baroline or any or all the slave States, undertook to go out of the Union, and Set up an independant host, I believed those states going out, or attrupting to go out, would be over -rin and Manped into the ground that it was as impossible for any of the states to go out, as it would be for any one or more of the countin of England to seed from the crown and set up a sparate Good? ou side or the other will devastate and distroy its opponent, and the original boundary will be maintaind he said it may be Do, but I must go with my people; he did go with them and I afteriourd learned wint down to death in the Early buttles of the war, For prudintial reasons, I took passage next day on the Steamer for Neroyork: passing Fort Sumptor and the other historical surroundings to the fate the own acts brought upon thim I returned by the 15th for to Washington, When I again mit Mr Breckenridge, and at his request told him gmy Experimer in Richmond, Charliston, and Lavanne: from that on he honored me with his friendship, as long as I lenero him. I arranged with Montgomeny Blair to aid

I roudine this black what assistance, I could to close up her affairs, and put her and her Jamily on bound a possel for the United States Mis black had informed Mr Brickaridge of what I had done for his and his family in materiala. and I attribute to this fact, This attration and friendship he gave me, and the presdom with which he Expressed his openious, and talked ofthe condition of the country and political mon and parties, HE took me to see President Buchanan who made many Euquines about balifornia and about my visit to central America and the west India Islands, Mr Buchanan proposed to appoint me U.S. Minister to quatomula to take Mr blastroplace. Mr Brickenridge and ges it was a proper thing to do. , Thanked them for the offer, but told this I was too much interisted in California to accept the position and respectfully declined, I told the President and Mr Brickenridge Trias Auprised to find the people so Excited about the coming Presidential Election, and the angry threats that came from some por tions of the south, to withdraw from the Union in case the republican nomina was Elected. That it must be only an Elector word to be borgotten when the contest was over,

They both said no, that A-had gove so far they frand the Election of Mr Lincoln would result in most- Serious trouble to the country: that if some more definite inderstanding and agreement were not made between the north and South than existed at that time, and satis factory to both section, that no man could for see the consequences. They both told mig I had time to take a trip, South as Jun as Richmond Charliston and Havanna - As I had over a mouth to span by on the supreme cour would mit. I told them I would act upon their suggistion -Mr Breckennidge gave militters to gentlimen in Richmond . Charliston and Savanna, I first saw Men, women, and children Mans, Sold at anction in Richmond in October 1860, and heard what I called treason uttered by man of Richmond, against the Goot ofthe U.S. At Charliston I saw and heard the Same thing: the banquage of treason was still mon violant: at savanna the same thing as at Charliston, and in all this places I serve Enough to be satisfied that mischief was brewing in the blave States, When I reached Charliston on my return from Savanna, the news of Mr Timeolus Election was Expected at any moment, and on the becoud day thirafter the result was conferred that

Jacked him what we should do in California. He said of course he houd nor would go with the couth unliss we set up a. Separate Goot and nation on the Pacific . I told him we could not join the South for we were a free state and did not care to have anjoy the colored vace in our State, Even free negroes. in any considerable member. He said perhaps you are right that for his part hi wished all the negroes wer out ofthe country bath south and north, that the north were to blame for bringing Alave into the country in the first place - but now they could not abolish Mavery in the south miles the proper wire in some way comprise ated for that kind of property, without doing great injustice, that the was fraspul for the future breause all the more in both section sumed to be franzicat by oud rice one, Itold him what I had seen in the colony of British Belize, composed almost wholly of negrous, that they seemed to do better by themselves thear when they wiri associated in any thing litre equal numbers with the white race, that the Same Thing was now apparently true in the west India Island of Jamaica Hereplied no doubtitution: the English Goot, In said have managed the colored race, and Every thing connected with the regro better than the propleand Goot of the U.S. The M.S. Minister Brook black of Fernisses, a protige of Mr. Breckenredge died nothen I was first Timin Enatimala

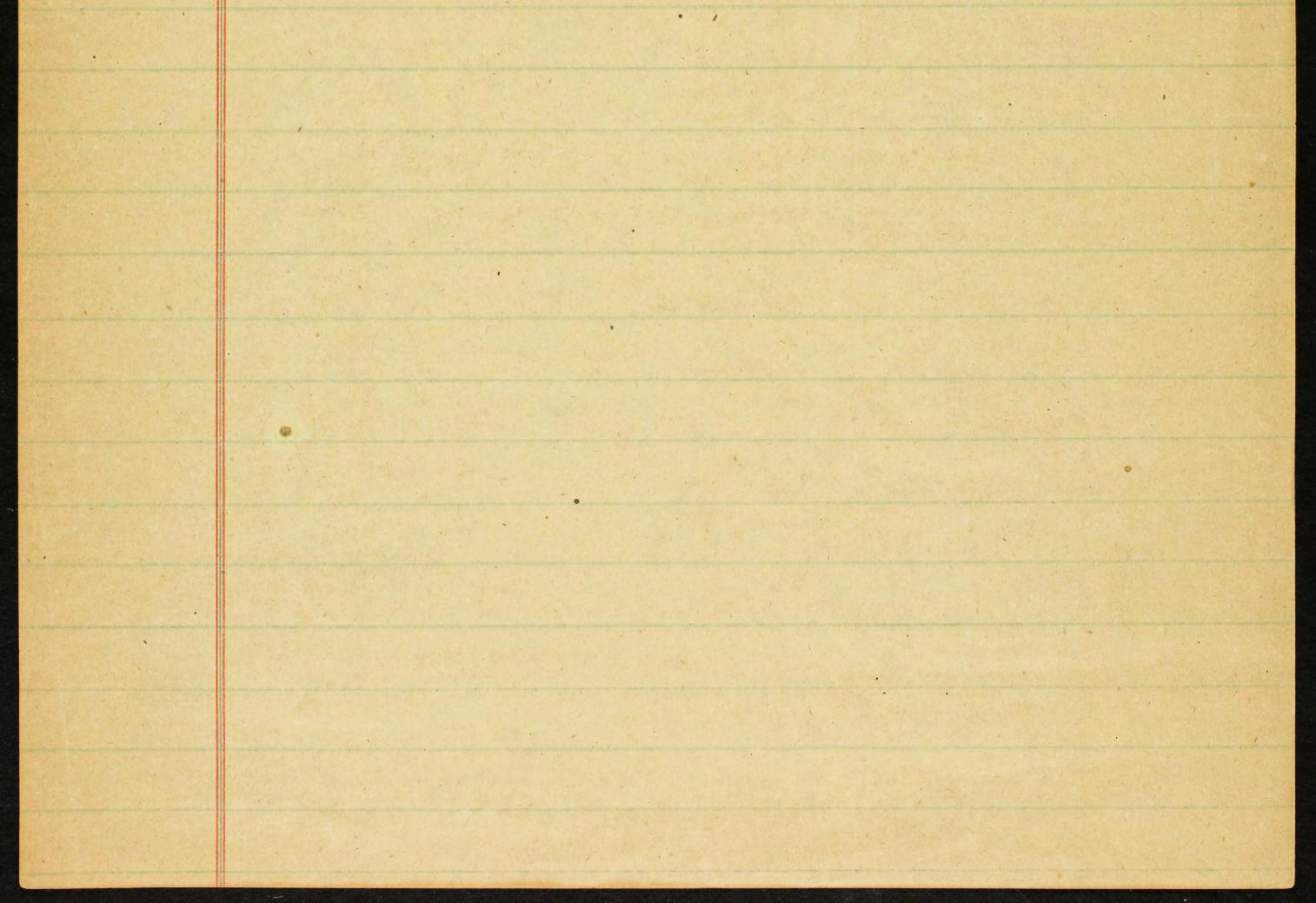
boundary between maternala and Hondiras, about fire days travel south Easterly grow the city of Guatemala: Distance is mot measured by miles or leagues inany part of central America, but by somany days hard miding bopan is a wonderful min, more Than I can describe; Stevens bentral America" illustrated by batterwood will till the story best. I thispassia down this Valley of the Molagua, acrost the Mico Mountains to the Formand Lake Isabell. At Isabell I saw a company of men fish out of the late with a shark hook an alligator who they said had captunid and dvound a child that was playing on the margin of the lake, but They did not find the child, and Evidently had made a Mistake in the identity of the aligator the Show ofthe lake is much frequentedby them and itis not surprising that the captured the wrong one, this killed him all the same because they said he was related to the one that got the child-I wint down the Rio Duler to the Bay of Houderas and up along the coast, winding our way among the Mango coverid islands, to British Belige, a colony of colorice Subject ofher majisty, and whire I was obligid to remain ten days for the Sail Packet to New york when I amived in August 1860. After Visiting my Father and Mother and the old hourstad in central Any york state I want to Wash. ington city to look after my appealed land cases,

After reaching New, york and wherever I went intil I reached Washington, the proph sund to be griathy by ceted over the question of blavery, and the influence it would have in the Presidential Election to accur the following November Some of the Southern Alave States were threating to withdraw from the Union of the Republican nowine Abraham Lincoln wir Elisted-Tiving as I had ban for mon thania dicade in California and just out of mouth travel in the wild of bentral Anerica, I was bewildered at the public Vchemeia, I could not ralie any cann for the din and uproar over the quicition of slavery or that any great harri was to follow the result of the Presidential Election our may or the other, My recolection at that time wore, that at every Presidential Election both parties claimed, that unless their candidate was elected the country and Gost of the U.S. would Aurily go to ruin, but my Experience had been that when The Election was own, and whether Mr Van Buren or Mr Harrison was Elicted, it was all the same and Every thing whit on again mostly and prosperonely-I met Vie President John & Breckenridge who en pressed the opinion that if Mr Lincoln Should be elected that some, and perhaps all the slave state would revolt and set up a separate Govt. and mation,

Reminischer of E. O. brosby our ofthe Beligater to the first Constitutional bouvention of California, and State Senator and chairman of the Quaite fidicion, connicte during both the first and Second Sessions of the California Ligislature After the adjournment ofthe California Legislation May 1. 1857, and during the years following up to the close of 1859, I was busily Engaged in prostenting land claims ander grant made by Spain and Merico to the carly resident of balifornia - Thise proceedings were had before the U.S. Land Commission, and on appeals to the U.S. District bourt, and to the Supreme Court of the United States at Washington, "Ifound it meessary to go to Washington in the fall of 1859. To prosithe hearing of som of this cases, pending on appeal bifor that tribungen Thinking to gratify a desire I had long cherisheel, to visit bentral America, and Explore Dowe ofthe grand old minud cities, discribed by John S. Stevens, Still Eyesting at bopan Kahlu, and other places in Justinia la, I took passage on the Clipper yacht Julietta, Capt. Dodes, for san for a buatemala, and after a delightful rin of ten days, went on show in a surp boat, the only modi of landing in that open roadstead, Saddle muli, for passengers, and other mules for lag gage win the only mode of travel to the interior, and • • with these Istarted for the city of Guatemala, Situated in a broad upland valley mingty miles from the Pacific -

After three days travel through tropical forests on the coast plain, and up the high lands four thousand Jest about the level of the Sea, brought me to the Spanish Mooraque built city of suatinala cons taining about 60,000 inhabitants, I had a letter from Bishop Alemany of San Francisco recommending me to the kindly attention of the Arch Bishop and clingy of Quatimala, as well as to all the Bishops and clergy of central America. To Say Iwas most kindly received, and hospitably entertained by them. wherever I went, is but faintly acknowl= - Edging this altention, I also had letters to President-barra, to Mr Hall acting British Minister and other gentlemen of the country. They all joined in giving me Every Jacility, for Exploring and Visiting the diferent parts of the interior, and aprecally the ancient min of ceties found by Alvarado the Spanish Conqueror and his invading army, in 1523_4-I spent a mouth in Guatimala city matering acquaintances, among it's spanish and matin inhabitant; who retained the same habits and cristons of three centuries ago. I organized my Mule train, and Startic for the interior, visiting Salama, Kahlumins, Coban, Fotonicapan, Solola Quezaltenango, bancha rivin, and other places, to the north & west, and in two mouths returned to heater male city for a rest, Ithin started for bops an on the

of Spraiding my blanterts in our corner, while he occupied another comer with a rude bunk he had himself built for his own repose, The night of File, 28, 1849, found Mu happily ashow, and domicille with My two trucks and blanket, with the chif civil officer of San Francisco. City,



- frank was built and Sout from N. 7. around cape Horn and this wir given up to gene swith and fairly and his staff, and some other privileged presons I got leave to swing my hanimack aniel ships which sous my bed on the boyage, althis I had a men buch at my disposal with the vist, of the passinger in the hold of the Steamer, and this burk Intilised for my bassage prefering my hannoch ou dick to the Stifled air and the such bunk bilow dack. It was a hildness voyage from biginning to End; we stoppill at Acapulco and Mazitland water and for provisions and water, consisting of his cattle pigs, Sheep, and a liberal hipply of oranges and baranna: The good feeling of the passingers and the Spredy prospict of reaching san Francisco and the gold mines when Each man pictured to hinself that he could pick up gold nigets with out much labor, and go home in a year with a fortime a at hast a moderate competence for life We were the first of the argonautifrom the Eastern States to riach California after the news of the gold discovery was made public by the publication of bol, Masous Report, We amond at Montery California on the 26ª of February as I remember the date, and supposed to be out of coal, baptain Forbes connecce collecting wood to take the place of coal to mach. San Francisco, but the 27th Some sach of

coal win found under the after cabin floor and with the wood already collected we Stramed up the coast and Entered the golden gate in the 28th day of Occamber 1849, and auchord in front of the little hault of San Francisco out side the mudflat and not far from opposite what is now the foot of Broadway. Hi U.S. flag ship Ohio Coundary Jours with two other offis vessels win auchord at saugelite, but very little Else was been in Aan Francisco Bay. Hun were no boat coming from show to Take us off, and the passingers went from time, in the boats belanging to the stacemer, and Landra on the roctes at blastes Point. about roture the foot of Broad way then termented. Many of the passinger campad on the side of Felzi graph Hill in the Plaza, now Portsmouth Aquan and othing found lodgings in buch house as would give three Shelter at any price I met Dr Teavenworth who was Alcalle of Lan Francisco, and who I had known in A.Y. before he come to balifornia as chapstern and surgeon of bol Stevensons Rigement, two years befor myamival. He had a huall offici in the One Story building Situated on the appen of Texany and blay Strute opposite The Plaz, and he gourosty offind me the prively

Mr. Robinson and myself had becure our techits on the California and win watch ing the Excited croud. Eager to secure a passage, At an indignation muting held in the Strub of Pauania to driver the aquite Zachrison & Azlson for not issuing ticket to all of this they Even whit so far as to propase to take boats and go off to the steam balifornia and seize the stimmer by force, and there out The chilenois taken on at Valparaise, and let all who had reached Panana from the U.S. comon board, "It was a dispirate croud and they were all stalwart menvill amed, and capable of attempting any disperate Entroprise of fairly instiated - Hurrow freily made for tickets already issued of all suns up to as in thousand dollars premium but no tal, winnade Do far as I heard, Mr Nelson our ofthe Stammagiriti Told me To have my baggaging myself on the private wharf by dark the 3dding after the California amond in Panama bay, and if I did so I would be puton board that night - I was mon than prompt to comply with his suggestion, and with some other fortunate passingers was safely talmant to the Stramer and put on board, Mu Acloon Told me to get a harmock, and he also had the forthought to put on board a boy of Eatable Such as could be

Uniched from of gailed to get food at the table and it is with feelings of gratitude to Ma telson Irecall his kindness to me on that decasion, I have been the Aclose Several times lince and higood naturially said my litter from Mor Aspin wall to them had it's influence, busides said he? Sawyou was new to the life and men with which you were fundud, and stode in need of a little friendly attention". He said he was huself afraid of the crowd, and that was why he sent the passingers off at night and in a hurry to get the steamer out of siglet before any out -briak occurred, that every day hi delayed, matters would be growing worse as hundrids were coming as fast as they could find passage from the States. Ssul Percifer J. Smith and wife row on bourd with his staff, consisting of bol Joseph Hooker Major Caubij and others, Mr Alfred Robinson was on board suitout by Howland & Aspinwall as This agust at San Francisco, Baron Stemberger was an of the passingers, who figure Extusively in getting bief for the Steamers and other shipsping at Sur Trancisco. Ithink there was about 250; passages laten on at Panama, and on the 15 of February 1849 the Steamer California Strand out of Panama Bay foi California. It was supposed that 25, besthe in the cabin was as many as would be required when the stramer.

ofthis gold washing nichenes, Made in the sast. Jeven, conceivable pattern and disyn win among the arioritic of the times. This buye, voyage up the now was anything but pliasum. Un mation boutmen all dressed in dark suit, the same that nature gave thing was at liast novie if not picturisque, and as we passed a Anall Stream near Gorgona we daw loui ladies of the country disrobing to take bath by taking off this Pauana hat; that article being all the clothing they had, At Gorgona we finished our River voyage, after sit days and nights of as wearsome affort as any man could make: mother hind milis, and mation porters to canyour bagage to panama: I chund with one of the passingers, and hind a mile to redrand the, That is our rich a certain distance and tic the mule for the other partner to take his tein to rice, the orour ofthe mile always went along to see that each our had fair play to rich. half the distance, and I suspect to see that norther of us went off with the mule, dive days after I reached Pariana much to my delight, the stramer balifornia roas Sightic Entering the Bay of Panama, She heid come around cape Horn withour accident and as Mr Aspinwall had predicted when I

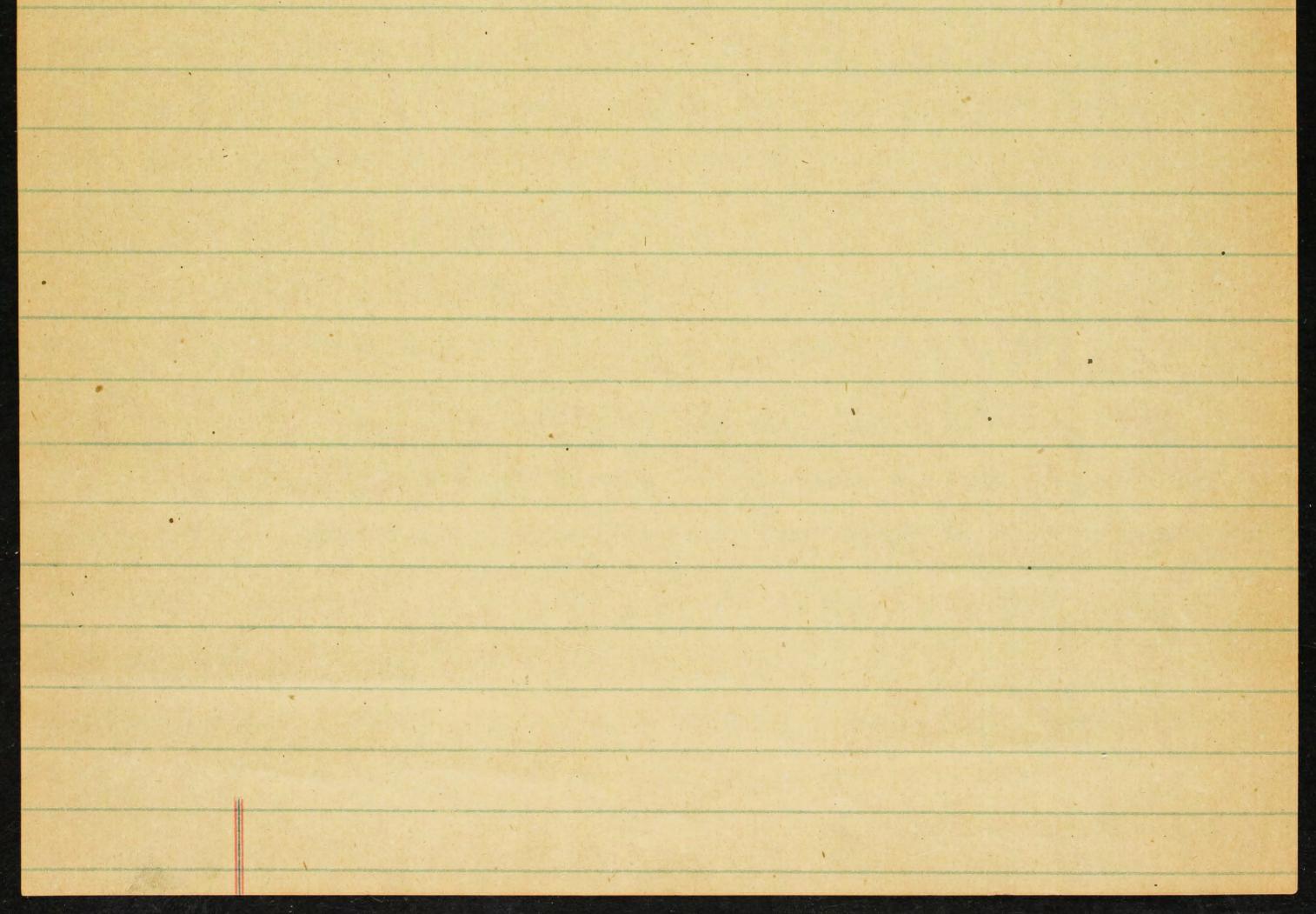
lift. M. That I would with good beech in orossing the Sthing be in Panama in Time to go on board for California. It was a close shaw of only fir days, Chotera had taken some your passingers to their long rest, and Maturally por all felt, augious to get gway from Pauloma, Hun had already assembled at Rancing by the last of Jany. 184gabout Six hundred pussengers from My. New orleans Mobile and other places, all anyious to get passage on the Steamer California, but bapt Forbes had taken Seventy fin Chilenos on board at Valpareies and this mot Standing room for all the monto go, and only about 250 could be given passage I met, Henry E, Robinson who . was our often State sou ators from Sacronneto during the thim first sission of the Ligeslature of California, He was a nation of Connecticut but had been living many quein in New Orleans and had come down to chams in the steamer Falcon and had crossed the Isthenius to Pourona and liter myself was seeking a passage to baliforme Mr Robinson and my silf win life long friends from air metrejon Pernama in Jerry 1849, and I alluch to him as a prominent Legislator in Shaping the countrial and maritim laws Enacted by the Ligislation when a civil how? was bring first Established in California

After three days freedom of the city of Buyston, the Stian whistle called the Stragler on board the old Stehmins; and we strand away acrost the caribran Dra, hunting along the coast. for the port of Chagres which mi luckily Jamie, without much dwiation from our direct course, The Entrance to the port and river Chagris is quar did on the lift by a bole Nock promoutory on which is situated an old fort commanding the Entrance, while to the right the land is low. but vising grade - ally away to the interior as far as the Eye can nach Ending in a succession of hills to the mountain. in the far distance, and all these covered with a most luquiaut groth of this and vegetation including the palm and cocoanet the most Striking of all the true and Joliage To a north man Eyes, and altogether the seeme to me, was one of inducenbable delight - From the ice, mont, and thish of Dicember in New york, to this full glan and hat of Summer, with linnen clother, and boundles occan on one side and the world of tropical verdure on the other, we should to be intering another worked, An old Stewar Isthmus hept right straight along at her best speed; barily grazing the works on the lift, and almost scraping the sand april on the right, we sitered the Enlagement of the river called the port and harbor of Chagnes, New Tremada, a fear of rechlessness no doubt altributable to the gautity and

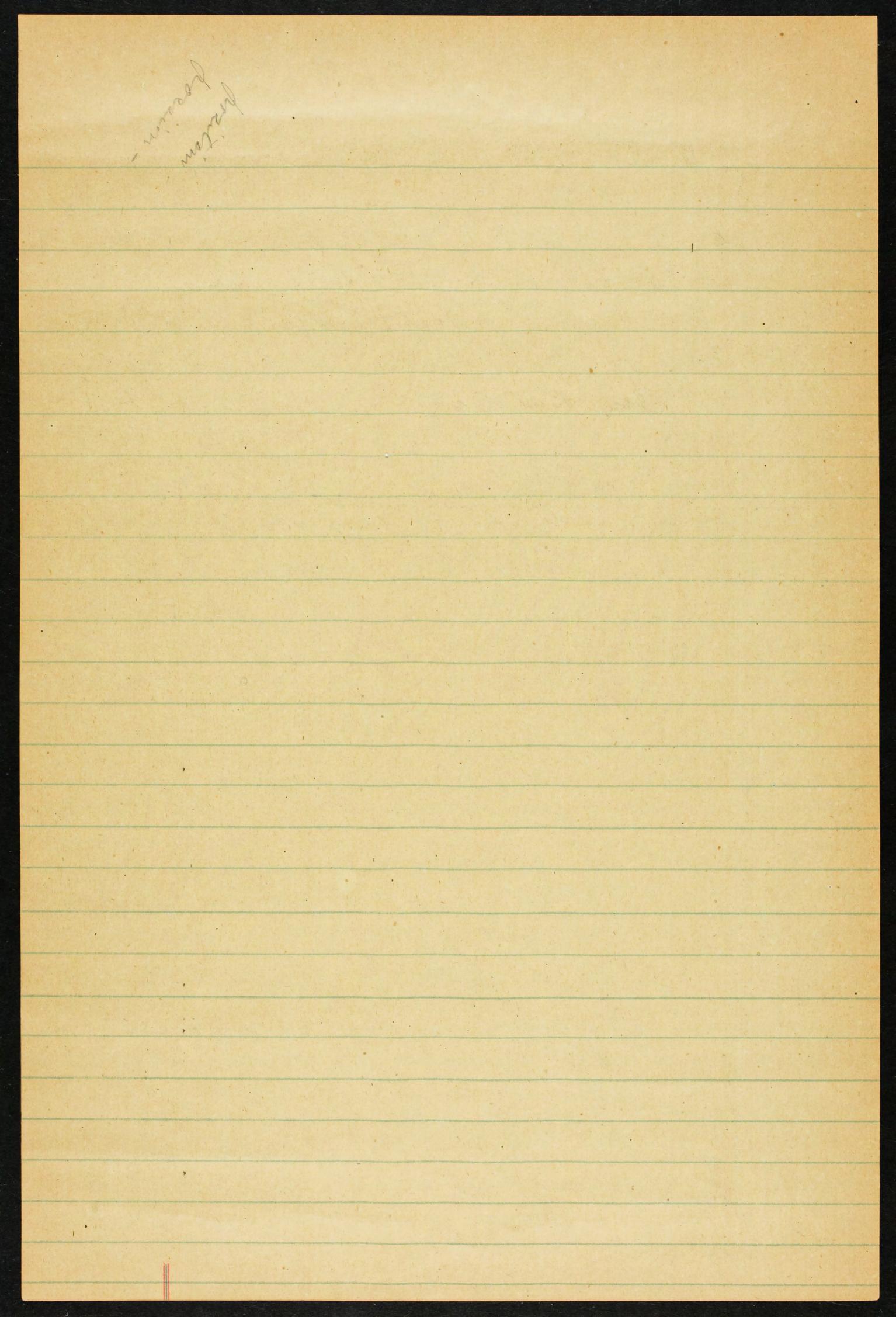
Earrie Cartinte face quality of the potation of our two caplains. the sown of Chapres consists of about thirty or forty cane built huli with high peaked roofs thatched with palm branches a foot or more Thick, which gave shelter from sun and rain, and placed promisenously along the shore The inhabitants an the most squalled set of human brugs thad ever seen; it is true fig. have norm abundant all over the county, but the matives sesured to prefer matures self an addoned unliss it was a Panama hat, Hu ouly near of getting up the River was by bugoes" or dugout boats Some ofthem Small couver, while others were of considerable size capable of carrying Eight or tan persons and a reasonable amount of baggup for Each one, I associated with five others and we hered a lang bungo, and a canor as a sort of tender to hilp the other, and into the lay our nor organ assorting and transfiring our bassage. The last I saw of my gold washing muchine it was going over the side ofthe Stramer, and sank bilow the waters of the thages River. It was the best thing I didan my veryage for when I got to bulifornia Sporind all this gold Washing machines wire attirly worthliss, after bring thoroughly tried; infact, after wards the beach at San Francisco, and at Sacramute the wrick

to the hout ofthe M.S. Santa Anna right or wrong had been summarily systered from Mexico, and Sought protection under the British Blag in its colony of Samaier Island From his conversation he seemed to be a ferre believer in the adage that Republic an ungratified, I saw many pretty finales among the marty white discendents of the colorid raver, with large black Eyes and Symetrical figures, will awelopid, and miling with moning grace as they met the balifornia gold hunters black races, kept apart; while in truch and business they seemed to be on most friendly Equality, An Murchants and shop kapers win layely English Jews, while the hovemon and principal bolonial officers were English and nation of England Aut-out or who came ait-To famaica to fill official position or Engage in the beading commercial transaction of the colony It sterned to me this English nin abroad in ou of this colouis was vastly more English than the English at how, and when several your after I writed agland & found it was a fact that for clean and assumption and impudint mipotana The ouglish in the British colony was a grially due mon important man in his own Esternation, than the Lord on his nation Isle,

monthy . . • i. A STATE OF A -. . • 4 • * ' • - - -18 2 v I . . . 1 1.4 ----1 . 1. . •



Jutin voyage, Mi went roving about until wirmade the north side ofthe Island of famaica, and reptit-in sight while mout completily around it and findly . made the harbor and city of thistory Every body wint on show, and the first thing done by the passagers was to long in a goodly suppy of linnen clother. for the change from M.Y. in Deer, to Jamaien was so pronounced, we were all glad to lay asich our coats and woollin for the more comfortable limmen Jobrick of the Tropier, Anous a hilarious croud and for three days leept-the town lively, but in Anch good kunsour the authorities let the boys Enjoy the freedom of the citywith some other gentlium passingers We went out a few miles to the country Such of the deposed President- Santa Anna of Merico. He had a dilightful place and Extension, and will kept grainels -We were cordially received and he secund to be well phased to have us call upon him for he entered into familiar conversation about the war and the new gold discovering in California: Ithink he was rather glad the good fortune of finding gold, fill to the aunicour, so soon after the country hadpassed



all the provision, I carried on board went freely given up at a place guing to the monarch of the occen. I did not know then the Lovreign Temady of Champagne Coctail, which now I find the very best libation to take in hour ofthe lea gody dominion -Jen Baker was our captain for brevity called lying fim". Ar was assisted by Capt Wood, who said he had been our occasion in Right of Shagner, but both Backer and Wood, did the constant drinking, while the first-mate childhe navigation of the old steamer - , the third day we brought up out of channel on the coral Baherna Bantes, and the providence which protected to many 4900 Savid us from wreck, The Stamer backed out and Look another Tach, and by good hick Mr Entirel the Port of Havana Illand of cuba, Antasmy first sight of the tropics, and the Palme tree, nalorange and lemmon with the world of hopical Verdin produced a subation of dilyht Do new and fascinating, I most readily Jazavi and forgot my first outing at seal mataid in Havanna two days and Took in coal with an abundant Suppy of naugu and other fruit. much to our comfort on our

• 1

the trucks and gold washing machine, on a dray and my arms full of blankets and hand bago. - togo - on board the stranger Isthmen to sail at 5, 0, clock for chapped, having about 120, passingers, Every thing was wet and slopping on board, no fin or comfort any where, and that night in a. Cold daups berth, with clother on, my gold feer had about cooled off, and I made up my mind that in the morning Invould give up my voyage and go back To my office. Just befor day light the morning of the 26." byon Igot out of my booth thisteamer swing out into the Morth River, and Steamid away down the bayfor the ocean, It was too late to land, and the strivered David brakfast was mady. I turned out but toilt accommodation row in fact nothing, and with dificulty I got a chance in the Groweled wash room to seeve mough water to baption my face and hands, The breakfast was a moken for the palate of a wall stout lawyer. no milk for copper, hard sha biscuit, and such tough meat, and polators boiled with this justation. It was just as well for when we were crossing the bar at sandy Hook we byan meeting The ocean well, Invarianous. swiral others leaving against the bulwark of the stranor settling my first account with Alplane

a mice assortment of mucholother, hid gloves and five boot, without a single red shirt or stogy book, in fact with nothing untable for the voyage, and camp lips in California, An inventive genius who sometimes came in our office, said he had made a gold washing Machine which he know was just the thing. for me to take to california that I could get two mento help work it and all swould have to do, would be to stand at the end and callet the gold dust as it pur out. . of course I was delighted with the courd, and took the gold washing machine as I was anyious to make a good thowing of gold when Instand to A.Y. at the End of the year, All my preparations bring made I found an Old Steamer was advertised to take passingers to Chaques, with inmichate dispatch, It was an det sich whill stramer about sig hundred Tous burden that had been cuffing about the gulf of menico during the war, but was considered good mough to eary passanger to Chagres, and as it was the first chance I got my the fact mady to be an hand The day the was to sail, , On the 25th of Dicember 1848, Christmasday, a cold drighing rain and half mow had bein falling all day; and in the afternoon Swint Alopping down to the foot of boilland strut A. y. with my

and he said to me if I wanted, to go strathe would give me every facility to get. There Early, and that if I started the first chance for shagres, and had good buch in crossing the Sothing to tanama, I would be intime to get on board this Strawer California, which they had started around Capi Hom for Paulunce and thince up the coast to California. He offind towrite to his agust at Panama, Zachrison & Stelson, to put mon boand the first Stranger and amore at Parama for balifornia Mr Benedict Said go by all mians - and begon a year, and when you return your interest in the office shall be continued. The Samas from Staid with me, They were both anyious for me to go and sifor this of this report of gold river true, and to what extent it was found I had wever been out to ha and had hardly bou out of my native state, of My, and I thought it were good opportunity to have an adventure and see something byoud the routine and drudging of a law office. I had no idea of what would be a proper aut fit, of clothing, or other things suitable for a sea voyage and the rough comp life in the mines of California, So spacked two truth with Broadway made Quits, while Shirts + mete, and

associated with Abur Breediet. Eg. in theprace tice of law. Mr Bendiet was an old lawyer well versed in Adminuty law, as well as in general practice offic profession When the Presidents message was published Ocer 1. 1848; it was accompanied by the Reportof Col, R. B. Mason, to the Secritary of War discribing fully the discovery of goler at Sutter Saw mill, in the present courty of Eldorado in Juny of that year, kublic His was the first authuntic information we had of the gold discovery in California Howland and Aspinwall ship owners and Mirchaits of My, un clients in our office and I frequently saw the Aspinwall then on business, These gentlimen had to run, between Pauana and origon, Touching at the Ports of California to have and take on the mails, with births for 25 cabin passager. , as that miniber was supposed to be as many aswould want to take passage at one time They has sent the first seamer in aptember 18288. To go around Cape Hom to takits place on the line from Penana to oregon, stoping at The porti of balifornia. . Mr Asprimall Sained very much Excited about the news of the gold discovery in balifornia

Elisha Oscar, brosby is a linear discendant from Simon brosby, who aged twenty bit. arrived from England in the ship Subar and Ellyn with his wife Ann aged twenty five, and their young Son Phonesin 1635, and settled in Cambridge Massachuseth Colony, His mothers ancestor was Edward faulding who arrived in 1633, and betterin Her Thinfor of this curly Russetten Stock of Ariv England, He wer's born July 18, 1818 in the Jown of motor four friend county state of their your Educated at bottend Academy in the Your of Hower, leartland county Mate of Maryork. Studice law with his Much Elbridge Ferry Spanding in the city of Buffalo, N.Y. and was admitted to the supreme court of the Clate Betig at the July Forme 1843, Schull telson Judy presiding, and admitted solicitor in Chavery by Rittyde, Walworth chaucedor July 18, 1843, his twenty fifthe birth day and when he came to balipornia, what he Law and did after he arrived, ... In The fall of 1843, after bring admitted to the supremi court and bouit of blicing of the State of Aruberte, I wint to New york city and