

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (The royal road of interior land)

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro was a primary route between northern Mexico and what is now the southwest United States, for more than 300 years. It was used by the Spanish for colonization, missionary supply, commerce, cultural exchange, and military campaigns. Historic, ethnic, and culture, traditions were also transmitted along El Camino Real, particularly Spanish music, folk tales, medicine, sayings, architecture, geographic place names, language, irrigation systems, and Spanish law. Also a variety of foods, including the Chile pepper, were also introduced to New Mexico by the Spanish settlers via El Camino Real. El Camino Real was established by Juan de Onate in 1598, almost a decade before the first English colonists landed at Jamestown, Virginia.

El Camino Real (the royal road) extended from Mexico City, the capital of the vice royalty of New Spain, to San Juan Pueblo from (1598-1600). Then the ending point of El Camino Real was moved to Santa Fe, in 1610. The total mileage of El Camino Real from Mexico City to San Juan Pueblo is 1,500 miles.

The Spaniards started expanding north in search for richer silver mines. When the capital of the northern province of New Spain was moved to Santa Fe, Santa Fe became the terminal for the mission supply system. Soon the caravans bound north from Mexico City carried not only friars and missionary supplies, but also settlers, newly appointed officials, traders, produce, and occasionally convicts and prisoners of war.

THE WESTERN MAILS

SPANISH/MEXICAN/NEW MEXICO.

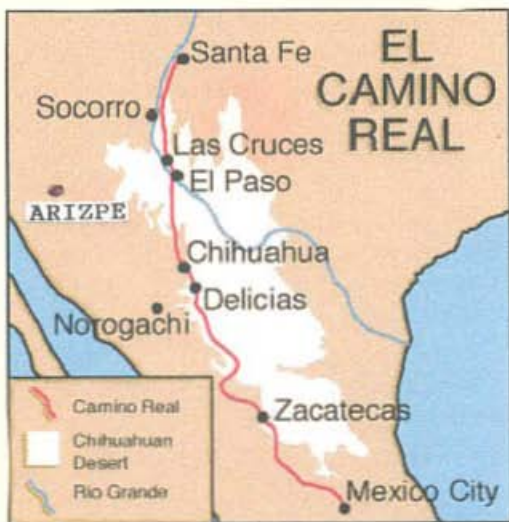
SANTA FE was founded by Pedro de Peralta, the Spanish governor of the province of New Mexico, during the winter of 1609/1610. He named it **La Villa Real de la Santa Fe de San Francisco de Asisi**, or The Royal City of the Holy Faith of Saint Francis of Assisi - shortened to **SANTA FE**. There were only two post offices, during this period, in what is now Arizona and New Mexico - **SANTA FE** and **TOME**.

NUEVOMEXICO.



NUEVO MEXICO. This postmark was used by the **SANTA FE** post office during the Spanish and Mexican regimes, between 1800 and the American Occupation in 1846. The cover shown above, bearing this postmark in red, is addressed to the Alcalde (mayor) of the City of Chiguagua (Chihuahua), from the Alcalde of the "Villa a Sta Fee". The numeral 3 manuscript is the postage in Spanish reals. No year date, but most probably used after Mexico got its Independence from Spain in 1821 - during the early 1820's. This is the first cover to show that this postmark was applied at **SANTA FE** and it also is the earliest recorded use of this postmark by more than twenty years.

THE WESTERN MAILS

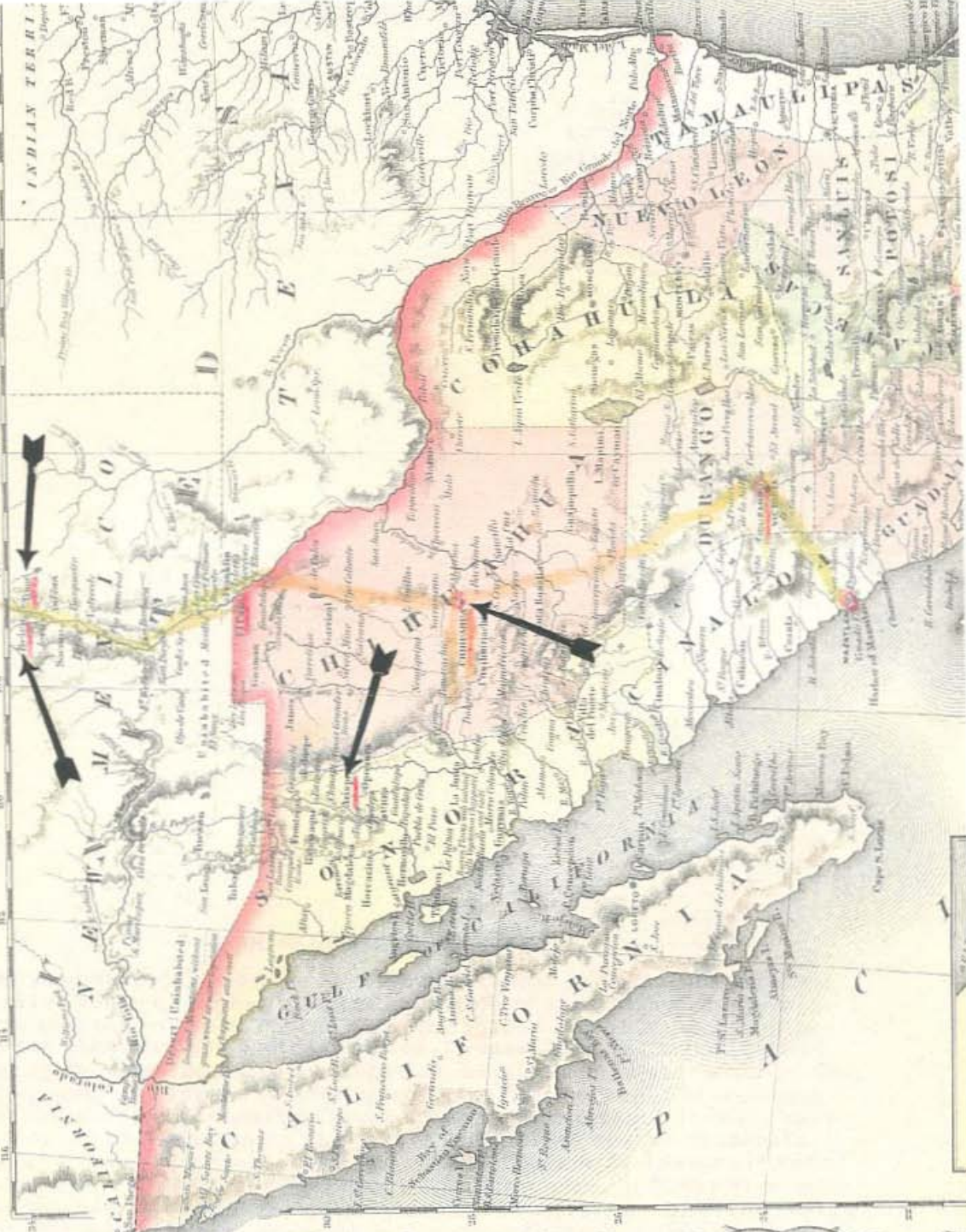


EL CAMINO REAL
de Tierra Adentro.
(The Royal Road of the interior land), was the main route between SANTA FE and MEXICO CITY for more than 300 years. It followed the east side of the Rio Grande River to El Paso, thence almost directly south via CHIHUAHUA and DURANGO, for almost 1500 miles.



SPANISH/MEXICAN/NEW MEXICO.

TOME was established by the Spanish government in 1695. Located about 80 miles south of Santa Fe, on the east side of the Rio Grande River. It was a station on the **EL CAMINO REAL**. The folded letter shown above, bearing the straightline postmark in red, is datelined at "**Belem [Belen] Mayo 20 de 1823**". Belen is a little S.W. of **TOME** on the west side of the Rio Grande. The letter is addressed to Don Lorenzo Lopez at Chihuahua. Besides the **TOME** postmark it bears a large manuscript "3" reals rate of that office. Apparently the letter was carried over an alternate route as it bears a manuscript postmark of "**Arizpe Sr. [Sanora]**" and an additional "3" reals rate marking below the postmark. It may have gone this way because of Indian troubles that frequently plagued the Camino Real. But, more likely, it could have gone to Chihuahua and then been forwarded to Arizpe, which would explain the extra "3" reals charge. This cover bears the earliest use of the **TOME** postmark by more than two decades.





To Mrs Maria Forsyth
Livington
New

\$15.00

3

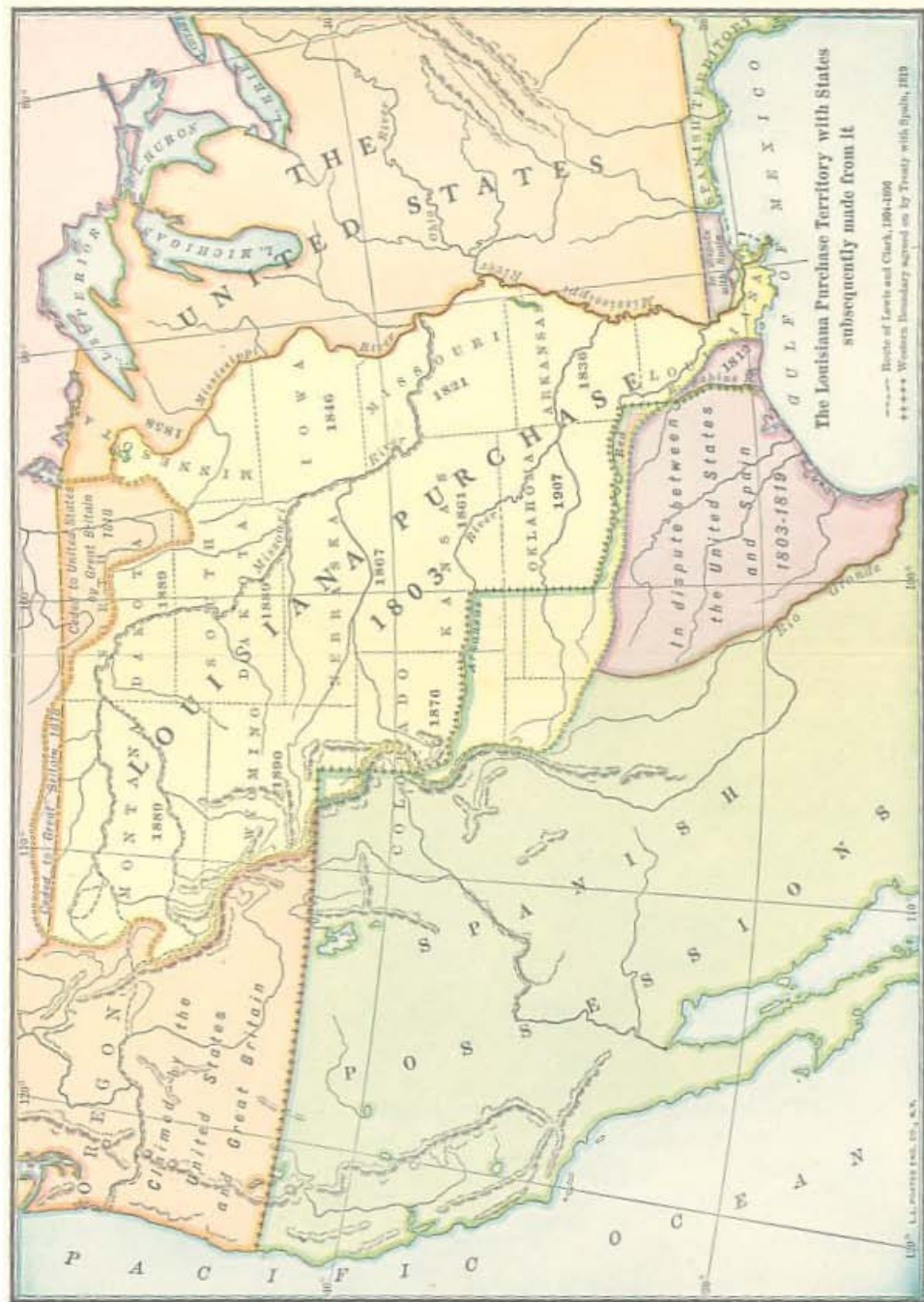


[1846]

Santa Fe August 30th

Dr Maria

Your letter by Capt Bent
of the last of July came safely to hand
in the short space of thirty days or less -
I am better in health, better in spirits,
in every way better & happier than I
have been for a long time - Happy
in your affection. Happy in the hope
of recovery and of being able to remain
with you the bal' of my days - Our
business is all satisfactory and will
pay us great profits tho' there are
too many divisions to come out
of it - I arrived here a day
or two after our last letter Express
which is the reason that I did
not write at the same time James
did - I was at Co General Kearney's
ball the other night & witnessed
a gathering of the Elite of Santa Fe.
A more miserable set of women
never congregated together - Not a virtuous
one in the room & all as ugly as sin -
They do not compare with decent Indians -



The Louisiana Purchase Territory with States subsequently made from it

--- Route of Lewis and Clark, 1804-1806
 +----- Western boundary agreed on by Treaty with Spain, 1819

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C., 1908

Walnut Creek near the Arkansas Sept 24th 1831

Dear Sir I am now this fair on my way back
 We have had some hard luck since we left
 St Louis on our way out to Santa Fe we lost
 Mr Minter killed on the Pawnee fall
 we suppose by the Pawnees it happened on
 the 19th of June Mr J. S. Smith was killed
 on the Cimarron June 27th by the Comanches
~~about 1000~~ & aires

Independence Mo 1831
 October 1st
 Wm H Ashley
 St Louis
 Mo
 Santa Fe
 nations
 the traders
 are not
 and but
 300 head
 are now
 the
 Time

DEATH OF JEDEDIAH S. SMITH ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

Historic letter written by William L. Sublette from Walnut Creek, near the Arkansas river, on September 24, 1831, to Wm. H. Ashley. Placed in the mails at "Independence Mo October 1st" 1831. Rates 18 3/4 cents to St. Louis.

"The letter is paralleled somewhat by two extant letters written from the same locality on the same day, by Austin Smith to his father and brother, and all three letters setting forth the circumstances of the death of Jedediah Smith at the hands of the Comanches, besides detailing Peter Smith's venture (in association with Samuel Parkman) in the California/ New Mexican trade. In addition, Sublette's letter gives a much more detailed account of Minter's being killed by the Pawnees, the only source to date the occurrence (stated as June 19, but transparently May 19; Sublette dates Smith's death for June 27, a similar mistake for May 27). Moreover, Sublette provides details as to the dissolution of his partnership with David E. Jackson (Smith, Sublette & Jackson), recounts the mountain news insofar as it has filtered south to Santa Fe, remarks on the returns of the traders, and indicates something of the nature of his own business relationship with Ashley. The letter is a major documentation of fur trade history." Dale L. Morgan, October 2, 1956.

SEE Fur Trade Collection for the original letter.

Succora N. Mexico. 18th Nov 1849.

A FORTY-NINER ON THE
MEXICAN GOLD TRAIL

SOCCORO, NEW MEXICO is located on the west bank of the Rio Grande River. At the time of this letter it was a small adobe village under military occupation. It was garrisoned by a detachment of U.S. Dragoons. until the organization of the territorial government September 9, 1850. The U.S. Post Office was established about 1850-1851. The letter shown above was used as per postmark **SOCCORO N.M. NOV 20/49 H W EDGAR P M**, during the military period and is, therefore a military postmark. It is also marked "Paid to Ft. Leavenworth", but doubtful that it went "Via San Antonio", as per directive. The military was running regular expresses directly to Fort Leavenworth during the occupation. At Fort Leavenworth it was postmarked and rated as per numeral "5", all in red. It is the only SOCCORO postmark known during the military period.



A most interesting letter by William L. Smith, who is on his way to the California gold fields, via the **EL CAMINO REAL** to Mazatlan and thence by steamer to San Francisco in 1849. Smith goes into detail on his plans from Succoro to Matzaland, via Chihuahua and Durango. He is traveling by a two mule carriage and plans to form up with a company of Americans, because of the dangers of passing through a country plagued by Indian marauders and robbers. **SUBLETTE** was Solomon P., the brother of the famous fur trapper/mountain man, Wm. L. Sublette. **HEREFORD** was Thomas, the father of Frances S. Hereford, who had been the wife of Wm. L. Sublette until his death in 1845. Two years later she married Solomon. They both died in 1857.

A FORTY=NINER ON THE
MEXICAN GOLD TRAIL

"Succoro, N. Mexico, 18th Nov 1849"

"Coleman Younger, esq.

My dear Sir I wrote to you from Santa Fe, via San Antonio, Texas, advising you that I had received your esteemed favors of 21st and 23d. Augt . . . I stated to you that Mathew had been sick since we crossed the Arkansas [river], and that Jon. Henry had been more unkind and unamiable toward [me?] than I conceived possible for any child [boy] to behave to his parent. I therefore found it absolutely necessary, first to get into quarters to promote Mat's restoration to health - during which time John became so restless, so much like an Indian, that I promised him, if he would stay with me until I got to Peralta [N. Mex.], the residence of Dr Connelly [Henry, Gov. of N. Mex. Territory], I would fit him out with fresh mules to pack to California: Accordingly, I was forced to sell my wagon at Santa Fe and pay, or draw upon you, for a buggy or Carriage as it called here, similar to the one Perry Young offered me. By I was compelled to pay \$300 for it by valuing on you, which of I hope you will duly honor and if I live to return will certainly explain to you how two Americans can combine to pluck one, in this Territory. I travelled by very slow stages to Peralta, and upon a free and full consultation with Dr. Connelly, I availed myself of his friendship - and am now striving to get to El Passo and Chihauha, Sonora, and Masatland [Mazatlan] and thence by Sea to San Francisco. I fitted out Jno [John] at Peralta with two fresh mules, furnished him with clothes, money and all fixtures for the trip; he came alone to this place and overtook his Clay [county] friends and joined them at this point - traveling more slowly with, But I did not get here until two days after they started, but saw some 30 of the men from Lexington [town of], Carrole, Saline & [counties] who came out with Mr. Cooper, at La Joya, who informed me they would be in company with him [John Henry] and endeavor to advise and counsel him. Dr Connelly offered me every aid I desired, and John's expenses being between \$2 & 3 hundred dollars, I was compelled to value upon you again for \$590 at Sixty days sight. A part of this for mules for Jno. the balance the Doctor insisted upon my taking to guard against the various dangers, difficulties and casualties arising from travelling in this country: he also gave me letters of introduction at the various points on the route, a letter of credit at his house in Chihauha and at Masatland, if I needed further resouras. His knowledge of the difficulties of passing through this country without loosing one scalp has been valuable so far to me - but it is impossible to guard against being robbed, as we have lost at almost every house we stopped at - Something or other frequently of great utility to us - Recently at this place, I had a valuable carriage mule stolen by a servant hired to wait upon me to Chihauha - and this treachery in a Servant recommended by the Doctor, I here the difficulties to be encountered. I have therefore determined to await here until Lucas' team of wagons comes up and then to form a company of Americans to Chihauha and thence to Masatland if possible. Mr. Lucas has been here, and is now hourly expected with his wagons - although we shall travel slowly, it will be more safely and satisfactory to me - time being of secondary importance to safety and comfort. By this route I may avoid paking altogether, and keep carriage until I get in the neighborhood of Masatland - At any event safely at Chihauha I can look after Sublette & Hereford for you, and if possible collect the amount they owe you. [See note on below] Sanderson I expect to meet somewhere but quite uncertain at what point."

At this point Smith's letter is mostly about financial affairs. He notes that the in the New York papers it has been announced " that several responsible Bankers had gone out to California to establish themselves" and says that it is necessary to learn the Spanish language if you go to California, "which if as mean and degraded as this country [Mexico], Africa I consider a Paradise to it, and of course will tarry in it as short a time as possible. . . . Kiss Coleman & William for me."

William L. Smith"

William L. Smith

Paughe Fork 15 July 1846

Dear Brother & Sister

I am well Hoping
these may find all of you enjoying the same Blessing.
The Leavel left the Garrison I was taken with the
Fluents & Mite Fever which lasted me for five
Days I could Ride on my Horse a while & then
Lay Down on the prairie with the assistance of
one of the Boys in our Mess I got a Long
As well as could be expected on a trip of this sort
I am now in the enjoyment of Good health
which of all Blessings this is the Best on a
trip of this kind. we lost one of our Men
Night Before last he died with the Rheumatism
his name was Nimihaka Carson he lived at
the Point just Above Glasgow. this morning
of all sights I ever beheld I seen the Greatest
A Man floating Down the River who drowned
Day Before yesterday. A young ^{Man} & my self went
in to bring him to shore. I tell you I felt mighty
Lively when I caught hold of him his head &
feet was hid in the water his shoulders was
out. poor fellow he was sent with an
Express from the Garrison to the Commissary
Wagon here on Paughe Fork his name was
Hughes A Vol in Capt. Hudson Company from
St Louis he was taken Just now &

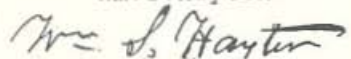
THE WESTERN MAILS

"Paughnee Fork 15 July 1846"

This was the fork of the Pawnee River with the Arkansas River, near Pawnee Rock and Fort Larned. The writer gives a good account of General Stephen W. Kearny's Army of the West, as it marches down the Santa Fe Trail to the conquest of New Mexico and California. The following is taken from the letter: ". . . . we lost one of our men Night Before Last he Died with the Rheumatism [Rheumatism] - his name was Nemiheaha Carson - he Lived at the Point Just Above Glasgow [Missouri]. this Morning of all Sights I Ever Beheld I Seen the Greatist - A Man floting Down the River who Drowned Day Before yesterday. A Young man & My Self Swom in & Brung him to Shore. I tell you I felt Mity Quire when I Caught Hold of him - his head & feet was hid in the water - his Sholders was out. poor fellow he was Sent with an Express from the Garrison [Fort Leavenworth] to the Comisary Wagons here on Paughnee Fork - his name was Hughes - A Vol[unteer] in Capt. Hudson Company from St Louis - he was taken Just now & Buried with the Honours of War. Mr. Carson in our [Company] we Berrird him on Paughnee Rock - A Noted place with the Traders & Indians - with the Honours [of] War also. there is Some in Every company 2 or 3 that is sick - one man in the Cole* company I think will Di he is very sick. Sister you new Sterling Moad he is in cole company - he was verry Sick - he is now Going About Able to Ride - theare is none in our company Dangrous Nor Non in the Clay* A Man can See Something New to him any Day - Some of them Interresting & Some Verry Horrible. I Gess it Horned Frog or Prarie Dog or A hurd of Buffalows 2 or 3 hundred & Dozens of thing I havent time to mention. I am writen you this Letter as I have A Little Spare time Not nowing when I will have an oppertunity of Sending It to you - I will Leave one page Blank. . . . My Horse Stands the trip tolerable well - we are at presant here on Paughnee Fork where theare is nothing But Short Grass Called Buffalow Grass & thay Do not fare So well But when I Stake him out he Goes to Grubing - he Eats all the time - we could not Get no Salt - I Gave A man ten cents for one hand ful for him - the Horses Do not need no Sault now the Ground is Saulty all on the Bottoms - I Do not wheare [know if] I can Get him Back to Mo. or not - I am Going to tri any way. . . . I have Just now Learnet theare will be Some Wagons to Leave to morrow or Day after to morrow. . . . this news of Wagons Going to the Garrison Starts all the Boys to writin Letters - I have to write on my nee which I make A Bad out [of] & as to Spelling you now I am A poor one. theare is A Sweat crowd of us heare now on Paughnee Fork - theare is six companys of us mounted men - Two of Infantry - Two Mounted Ahead & I Do not now how many Behind. we are water Bound at presant But will Be off Soon as the River is falling fast. It is now to Bents Fort about 250 milles from heare & from Bents Fort to Santa Fee 250 miles So you See we have to travel 500 miles on o ur horses yet Before our Journey is Ended now, 16 July Col Carney [S.W. Kearny] has Just came up with five company - 2 of Artilerry - 1 Mounted & 2 of Infantry - the footmen Beets us all Holler travling - thay traveled 40 miles yesterday - Old Rich [Mr. Riche - sutler & postmaster to the expedition] Braught Lotts of Letters for the Boys & I got non - I wanted to Heare from Home So bad. I oमितed Saying Col. Carny has 2 companys of Dragoons making 13 Company of us here & 2 Gon On 15 in all. . . . Farewell. write to me Soon & I will Every oppertunity. Yours truly

Wm. S. Hayten"

N.B. I am well & can Eate as much Buffalow meat as any Body Wm. S. Hayten"



*Cole & Clay were Missouri counties, thus the reference to men in company of. Wm. S. Hayten apparently was a member of the Alexander William Doniphan expedition, which went south from Santa Fe, down the El Camion Real to Mexico and the Battle of Sacramento on February 28, 1847, in which they were victorious. The battle was on the Sacramento River near Chihuahua. SEE Hinton letter.

SANTA FE TRAIL - PRE-TERRITORIAL

MEXICAN WAR

*Cimmaron Creek upper Spring 250 miles
from Santa Fe September 17 1846*



Eastbound letter carried by Private or Military Courier through unorganized territory beyond western boundary of United States

Dated "Cimmaron Creek upper Spring 250 miles from Santa Fe September 17, 1846", this soldier's letter was carried by over the Santa Fe Trail to Independence where it entered the mails. Before 1850, all letters from the Santa Fe trail were either carried by Military courier or under individual trip contract east to Fort Leavenworth where they were posted into the mail system.

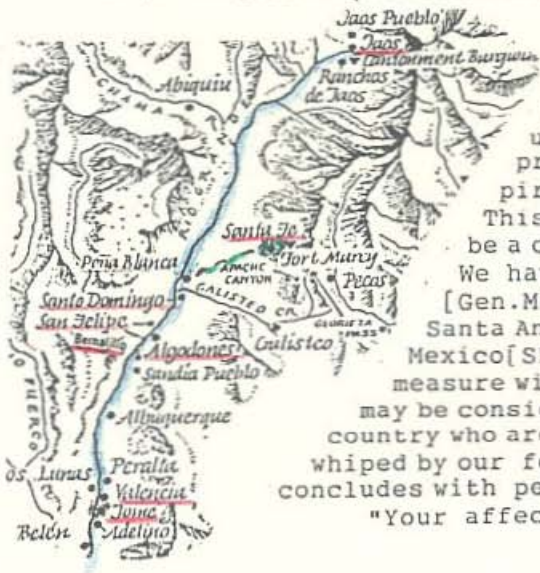
History: In 1846, General Stephen Watts Kearny commanded the Army of the West with instructions to conquer New Mexico and California. Colonel Doniphan with an army of 1000 Missouri volunteers was to join Kearny at Santa Fe. In route, one of these foot soldiers wrote this letter home in which he states that...*"traders I met today told me Genl. Kearny took Santa Fe without opposition, some six or seven thousand Mexicans and Indians came out a few miles to meet and give him a fight, but at the sight of our men they fled and they have not seen a Mexican soldier since. When Kearny arrived in Santa Fe, he planted the stars and stripes in the center of their public square and the Population gave our flag three cheers"*.

KEARNY'S EXCURSION TO TOME TO DECLARE
U.S. OCCUPATION OF RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

"Santa Fe September 16th 1846

Dear Rollin As the mail leaves day after tomorrow. I take the opportunity of letting you hear from me again. My last letter was to California, and written just as we were on the eve of marching South. We have now just returned [13th], after a successful trip through the towns of St Domingo, Algodone, Bernalillo, St Felipe, Valencia, and Tome, which was the extreme south point of the march, all the above named towns surrendered without a blow and at Tome, they combined patriotism and church matters together, making all together a grand display in the way of torch lights, rockets, fire works, crackers &c, with, a smart sprinkling, of reveling a Caterva at frequent intervals, the church bells, rang a chime, the drums beat and volleys of musketry were fired, the affair was brought to a climax by carrying the image of the virgin around the square of the town, at each corner of which her ladyship was met by an orator, each of whom in turn delivered to her waxy majesty an address, in spanish little of which of course could I understand, but did enough to learn that they were thanking this image for past favors, and imploring her for a continuance of the same. The procession in her wake was immense, I among the number, and as near as possible to learn what was done. As a mark of peculiar respect, Genl Carny [Kearney], and staff, and some other inferior officers, walked immediately after her bare headed with lighted candles in their hands. Now I do not think that old Carny was any more excusable for asserting in this worship of the Virgins image than Napoleon was, for rendering praise to Mahomet, and after marching thus fare under the most agreeable auspices, and the peculiar care of heaven - I fear that such acts, will result in ultimate misfortune, if not to the army at least to the progress of religion and truth. This country is as much in a State of ignorance and barbarism, and as fare from religion and Morality as the Northern States of Africa. The country through which we marched, produces, large quantities of Mellons fruit and Grapes, and such grapes I never saw, the bunches being six times as large as any in Mo. and of a quality fare surpassing any I ever tasted. As I do not expect to return before the expiration of the year for which we volunteered, a few directions, hoping that you will do what you can for me until I get back."

Lientz then tells his brother to take good care of the farm and improve and keep it in good repair and he will reward him and the boys when he gets back. He then



continues: "Genl Carny with all his dragoons, March in a few days [Sept. 25th] for Califotnia and as we will be the exclusive occupants of this country, and no force can get here to relieve us, until late in the spring, I do not think it probable that we will be discharged until the expiration of our term of servise, it being June next. This country must be held by the sword, and will ever be a cause of trouble and expense to the United States. We have just got an express from below that Paredes [Gen. Mariano] had been arrested by his own troops, and Santa Anna, once more ensconced in the imperial purple of Mexico [SEE NOTE]. He I have no doubt has come in on a peace measure with the United States so that all farther fighting may be considered at an end, excepting the Indians in this country who are hostile to the Spaniards, and will have to be whiped by our force before they will learn our power." He then concludes with personal matters and signes off

"Your affectionate brother M Pike Lientz"

M Pike Lientz

Santa Fe September 16th 1846

Dear Rollin

As the mail leaves day after tomorrow I take the opportunity of letting you hear from me again. My last letter was to California, and written just as we were on the eve of marching South, we have now just returned, after a successful trip through the towns of St Domingo, Algodome Bernabillo, St Felipe, Valencia, and Tome, which was the extreme south point of the march, all the above named towns surrendered without a blow and at Tome, they combined patriotism and church matters together, making altogether a grand display in the way of torch lights, rockets, fire works, crackers &c, with a smart sprinkling of revelry at bottom.

EXCURSION TO TOME

General Kearny with his Army of the West occupied Santa Fe on August 18, 1846. On the 22nd he issued a proclamation, declaring that New Mexico was a territory of the United States and that he had taken it "without firing a gun or shedding a drop of blood". On September 2nd he left Santa Fe with 625 mounted men and some Mexicans on a visit to the towns on the Rio Grande River, to advise the inhabitants that they were now "citizens of the United States".

In this remarkable letter, the writer draws a picture of the grand reception given the Americans, during a religious commemoration of the Virgin Mary, in which Kearny and officers marched, bare headed, holding lighted candles. With the fall of Vera Cruz, Gen. Winfield Scott and staff, was given a similar reception with "lighted candles" on April 4, 1847.

In 1846 Mariano Paredes was President and Santa Anna was in exile in Cuba. In July President Polk sent Alexander Slidell Mackenzie, who spoke fluent Spanish, to Havana, to talk to Santa Anna. If he would agree to go back to Mexico and take over the presidency he would be given a pass through the Navy blockade, with the promise that he would make a peace treaty with the U.S. Santa Anna landed at Vera Cruz on August 16 and was back in Mexico City September 15th. In the meantime Paredes had been arrested by the army and Santa Anna was now in command. Of course Santa Anna had no intention of making peace! SEE S.A. Mackenzie and the mutiny on the U.S.S. SOMERS in this collection.

SANTA FE TRAIL - PRE-TERRITORIAL

MEXICAN WAR

Camp near old Camp Calhoun New Mexico
September 10th 1847



Eastbound letter carried by Private or Military Courier through unorganized territory beyond boundary of United States

Dated "Camp near old Camp Calhoun New Mexico September 10th, 1847", this letter is another example of mail carried by private or military courier from unorganized territory back to civilization and the postoffice at Independence, Missouri, where it was placed in the mail to eastern Missouri.

History: The author was a soldier in General Kearny's Army of the West. He wrote, "We are on our way again to the Navajos, I have visited our old camp and the graveyard of the (Missouri) Volunteers.....The men are all in fine spirits with the expectation of making themselves rich by the stock we will take from the Indians."

Fort Leavenworth July 15th 1847.

Dear John,

I still retain my extraordinary good health and am certainly better now than I have been for many years past. You have requested me to write frequently and I know of course that you are always rejoiced to hear from me, but in staying so long at one place and then being so much occupied, it is difficult to find something to write about. Fort Leavenworth as I have before told you is a splendid place, but staying here so long has made me heartily tired of it and I am extremely anxious to go on.

A detachment of our Regiment, composed of four companies viz: Capt. Bond's Capt. Hampton's Capt. Niles' and Capt. Thurman's will start to day for our place of destination. The weather here is extremely hot, but notwithstanding, they are all very anxious to go on. It is very likely that some of the detachments of our Regiment will have a brush with the Cassach Indians before they get through, but I assure you from



John F. Snyder Esq.

Bellville

Chlts.

10

1847



Decatur, Illinois.
June 8th 1962.

Dear Floyd:

I finally located your wanted newspaper item after two trips to Springfield in search of it. This was quite a chase but still a lot of fun doing it.

First, tho, the enclosed is a verifax from it and is lousy but they are having photostat copies made for us, in fact I expected them all this week but they have not come in so far. So I must write and let you know, anyway, that it has been found. If the photostats do not make complete reading I will have to just go back and copy the article in full for you. And will gladly do so.

But the search also revealed other interesting things about this editor. First of all he only published the Bellville Times for a bit short of three years time and then took off for the gold fields in the gold rush of '49. He was in a party with Fred Snyder, who dabbled in newspaper work back in Bellville and then in San Francisco on the Alta Californian.

There are no copies of Gelwicks paper in the state files at all. So I started going thru the Bellville Advocate hoping that that editor would have lifted the piece and put it in his paper. But he did not do so it appears. Then the thought occurred that perhaps old Doc Snyder might have clipped the article because he saved everything and pasted them in scrap books. So on the second trip there, last monday, I searched the scrap books of old Doc and eventually found that my hunch was correct. But in pasting them onto the book pages they became uneven on their surfaces and will not reproduce on verifax for some portions just will not press down tightly. Hence the trial by photostats. But one way or another you will have your data.

The Advocate ran excerpts and notations that were of interest respecting Newby's command from time to time. Such as:

June 1 1848: Santa Fe; "Last night we received a Santa Fe Republican of the 11th March. Col Newby and Paymaster Major Signer's clerk left on the 9th for Taos."

Thur. June 8 1848: Santa Fe Republican: "Col. Newby" "This gentlemanly officer, now commanding at this post, has for some several days been confined to his room by indisposition - but we are happy to see him now recovering, and hope he may again, in a few days, resume his former station. As an officer and a

1848

1848

1848

to the Methodist church. Appropriate funeral and eulogies were performed by the Rev. Wm. F. Boyakin, after which his remains were interred in the public burying ground, to repose until the resurrection morn.

Dr. Champion adored and exemplified all the fine traits of the husband, the parent, the neighbor, the physician and the christian—and his loss is truly and painfully felt by this whole community.

IN GOOD TASTE—We were shown just now, a splendid walk-stock and prisoners. The latter were ing cans, of ebony, well polished certainly the most pitiful looking objects and handseemly mounted, and principally children, not one of whom was with ten years of age. Never seen before, wearing hats or caps, their hair originally black was burnt by the sun to a reddish brown color, while their faces were literally raw. Their only covering was a miserable piece of blanket, with the head poking through the middle, and tied with a buckskin string around the waist. With this they were as repulsively dirty as filth could make them. When they first came to us, it was with the expectation of having their throats cut as soon as any of us could get hold of them—for the Indians had caused them to believe that we were the vilest barbarians upon earth. But they soon discovered that they had been imposed upon, and manifested unbounded delight at their new condition—nothing to do and plenty to eat. Some of them had been so long with the Indians that they had forgotten their own language. There was a woman among them who had been in captivity for three years.— She had been married but two weeks, and dragged in this distant wilderness. Decency forbids us to speak of her appearance when she first arrived in camp, but after she had had the benefit of a neighboring spring, she was found to be quite handsome. She was only eighteen or nineteen years of age, and the joy of her return to her happy husband and father, both of whom had despaired ever seeing her again, can be better imagined than described.

These days had been given to the Indians to comply with their stipulations, and at the end of the time it was found that there was yet a deficit of 50 horses. We instantly received orders to prepare for an advance, and in a few moments the Sierra Madre, we spent every 24 hours in the ascent—and it was as tough a day's labor as man ever experienced. Several times at dead of night, with nothing but an occasional flash of lightning to show us our path—we passed within a few yards of precipices three or four hundred feet in height, yet still the same roar of the storm—for it was a fearful storm—raged through the tall fir



WHAT'S THE NEWS?
SANTA FE, New Mexico,
August 4, 1848.

Friend Gehricks—After the receipt of this letter which I wrote you from the Navajo country, you will doubtless be anxious to learn the issue of our expedition. We remained at our camp near the Sierra de Guatana, for some fifteen or twenty days, being visited daily by and holding long talks with the principal chiefs of the Nation. Once or twice they refused to comply with the conditions proposed by us, but a certain circumstance was found in threatening to advance further into their country. Finally, on the 30th of May, all the principal chiefs assembled at our camp and a treaty was in a few moments drawn up and signed. The principal stipulations of this treaty were that they should give up all the Mexican prisoners which were then in the possession of the Nation, and that they should deliver to the A. G. Master of the detachment three hundred

menaced descending into that almost self-supporting border, for which the boundaries desert—the California Basin, is now a patent in the U. S. Patent Office. Though the Basin itself, is almost a lifeless. The last building that we passed, relate a wilderness as the earth contains, situated on the highest point in an immense descent of the Sierra Madre into mesa plains, which, for six or eight miles, presents the most delicious country miles around the country is covered with that mortal eye ever rested upon—the fields, showing evidently that this was an enchanting valley through which we passed, seeming to have been created by miles square. And now, the questions the Almighty purposed for a contrast naturally arise, who were these people with the repulsive barrenness below. It and how long has it been since they dwelt in fact an earthly paradise, and one could not refrain from thinking while we passed upon these enchanting scenes of fields long before the Aztecs, is confirmed by the fabulous descriptions of the Elysium in so questions, for the descendants of Fields and the Vale of Tempe. The Montezuma's subjects, known as little Mountain sides which girdled in these about them, as we do. Another fact in lovely spots were covered with the one-proof of this is that, the face and character of the pine and that most symmetrical water of the country has been entirely just and beautiful of all trees—the fir, while changed since sixty millions found from among the rocks gushed forth the means of subsistence, to these now countless springs of sparkling water—the bare almost starves to death. Yes, The valley itself was generally covered this region, which once must have been with a rich black soil, to the depth of heavily timbered, have possessed a soil which there was no end, which the grass of unbounded fertility with an ample supply of luxuriant and tender as wheat, ply of clear water, is now covered with. After travelling about sixty miles we deep sands—without a particle of water encamped at the mouth of the Chean except during very rare rains, and it is Canon and on the banks of the Rio then so thick with briars and cactus that Chean, which runs through a rich red soil it is next to impossible to drink it, and soil. Here we were met by the chiefs, what is still more wonderful without any again, who made every arrangement sign of vegetation, except stunted spars necessary to the completion of the fern, grass, and a scattered chaparral ty, and in a short time we commenced growth, scarcely as large as our current to retrace our steps. We had travelled a bush. As an evidence, if any further about four hundred miles from Santa Fe, were needed, that this country has been and were on the broad waters of the heavily timbered at one time, I have brought with me, and will show you, Pacific rivers.

The nation of Indians who inhabit thought I ever met home again, spent this lovely region, though they knew locusts of purified wood, which evidently nothing of its immense agricultural, were parts of legumes. Some of them wealth, are far more advanced in civilization, belonged to a species of timber that is ration than the surrounding tribes. They now entirely extinct in this region. One raise immense quantities of stock, and specimens in as black and appears to have as fine horses and sheep as I ever have seen as compact as sheep.

We had a tollsome march of near four saw. They are infinitely superior to the Mexicans in the art of weaving, and lumber mules, and I am happy to say, their blankets are the finest in the world, not without a great deal of satisfaction. So compact are the latter woven that and some desirable results. We met they will hold water as well as Indian the enemy and a exchanged shawls with rubber cloth. The Navajos are in most him, and at the same time compelled him respects far superior to the New Mexi—at least, do not return home without at least, do not return home without stupendous and singular rains that have ing excited, for the government we already mentioned. On our way back, are serving, a portion of an imperial I had more leisure to examine them— treaty stipulation, viz: recovering Mexico. Several of the buildings, yet in a good many prisoners in possession of the State of preservation, cover a larger space than our public square, some of them are round, and some square, and three of them I found upon examination contain from six to eight hundred rooms. One of the round buildings has three basement stories. The mortar with which they are built is as hard as the stone itself. The windows are without a particle of timber, the wall part being supported on the principal of the columns. Other walls, the

Wm. H. Snyder, Esq.
Respectfully yours,
W. H. SNYDER.
Married.—On Monday last by the Rev. Mr. Elliott, Capt. N. Sims to Miss M. L. Traoria, both of this place.
A. J. Sells.
Attorney and Counsellor at Law.
W. H. Snyder, Esq. Attorney at Law.

H. Snyder was Men Adjutant of Col. W. B. Newby's Regiment of Soldiers

P.S. John Browning of the Howard company was taken ill while upon the Navajo Expedition, was brought into Socorro upon the Del Norte, remained there sick with Cap H. H. Hughes, was finally removed to Albuquerque for medical aid & there died some time in December. Today (Tuesday 26th) Jordan Hackley of the Howard Company, a young & interesting man, died of Typhoid Fever in the Hospital. His corpse will be interred tomorrow. I have reported the names of all the men ^{who have died} in the Regiment because friends & relatives are anxious to hear every particular respecting the deceased - Respectfully

J. T. Hughes -

**DONIPHAN'S EXPEDITION
ENROUTE TO CHIHUAHUA & BATTLE OF SACRAMENTO.**

Address sheet and post script from a letter written by John T. Hughes, the author of DONIPHAN'S EXPEDITION, Cincinnati, 1848.

"P.S. John Browning of the Howard company [Co. G, made up of men from Howard County, Missouri] was taken ill while upon the Navajo Expedition, was brought into Socorro upon the Del Norte [Rio Grande River] remained there sick with Cap H. H. Hughes, was finally removed to Albuquerque for medical aid & there died some time in December [1846]. Today (Tuesday 26th [1847]) Jordan Hackley [G. J. Hackly] of the Howard Company, a young & interesting man, died of Typhoid Fever in the Hospital. His corpse will be interred tomorrow. I have reported the names of all the men who have died in the regiment [1st Missouri mounted Volunteers] because friends & relatives are anxious to hear every particular respecting the deceased - Respectfully J. T. Hughes."



Editor of the Christianine

Liberty Blyg Blyg

Missouri

5



Coto Spring, Texas Territory
August 27, 1847

Dear Friends, -

I again take upon my pen on account of an opportunity offering itself an hour or two ago which is believed I shall not have until the return of our own train to write to you both though briefly as I indeed have but little time yet brief as it may be it will nevertheless I hope serve to convince you that though the wild and lonesome prairie of hundreds of miles in extent separates us both of you are still fresh in my recollection as my most esteemed friends. The opportunity I am embracing myself of is that of four Companies of Mr. Volunteer Cavalry being the last of ^{Col. Philip's} Regiment the Colonel himself accompanying it looking jovial and hearty in fact his whole appearance calculated well to influence strangers in his favor and bearing indications of a noble and generous spirit and one that would be kind, considerate and indulgent to his men or those at all placed under his command. John, your brother Williams has caught up with us since I commenced ^{his letter} so that you see it is a tough race and a hard pull between us who are all alone in our glory in charge of a train exclusively and those under

1867

STAMPS

S. F. Snyder or S. W. Wilson
Belleville

St. Clair Co.

Illinois

from the Army

Ac

are



10

John D. Sawyer, Esq.
Belleville
St. Louis Co.
Missouri,



Camp at Cold Spring
300 miles from Santa Fe, N.M.
August 29th 1848.

Dear John,

We are thus far on our way
home and getting along in fine style. We
even are of course all extremely elated at
the idea of getting back once more after so
long and so tedious an absence. Better health
has not been enjoyed by the Company since
the day we started. They are all full of the
brightest spirits and promise to cut up particu-
lar hell when they get back to town.

Fredewick I suppose is at Chama
and has been there for some time. I hope
that he has arrived in fine health. You may
confidently look for me a very short time after
this letter reaches you. But there is no sand
of taking any more time in writing, for I
will soon be with you in person to say
whatever I desire to say.

Your affectionate Brother
Wm. A. Snyder.

John D. Snyder
Mellville
Ills.

John F. Snyder Esq.

Belleville

Illinois.

Cotton Wood Creek, 173 miles from
Fort Leavenworth, Aug. 2nd 1847

Dear John,

When lying down to bed this
morning, I take the very favorable opportunity of
writing to you. We have been now two weeks
from the Fort, and have made the distance
stated above. The march throughout the
whole of the time has presented to me what
I little expected. It has in fact, so far been
but a pleasant trip. Instead of the hot
dust and sun - short parched grass and
barren soil that we were led to believe
we had to experience - as, when we left
home, we have found the most beautiful
pleasant and rich country, the most of the
way, that the eye ever rested upon -
the most pleasant refreshing breeze in-
imaginable constantly blowing, and might not
only cool but absolutely so cold as to be
uncomfortable when covered with as many
as three blankets.

We are all in fine spirits, and
I myself am enjoying the best health

THE WESTERN MAILS

him and is now decidedly, one of the best Physicians that I ever met with. He has taken two degrees in Medicine - one in the City of New York and one in Edinburgh in Scotland. You will be astonished to hear that his name is now James D. Robinson. The cause of this change was his falling heir to a fortune and one of the principal conditions of his acceptance was his change of name as above. He is altogether one of the finest fellows I ever saw.

Your affectionate Brother
J. H. Snyder.

PAID

John J. Snyder, Esq.
Bellville
St. Louis Co.
Illinois

1765

Camp at Mouth de Cuictana
two hundred and fifty miles
from Santa Fe.

May 12th 1848.

Dear John,

I gladly embrace the opportunity of sending you a few lines from the Sonaja Country. After a march of ten days we have found a permanent encampment and should the Crava:jo's not come to such terms as we desire, we will stay in the Country until we have compelled them to do as we desire. We have sent back to Santa Fe for provisions and will give them a large boat of it if necessary. Our force consists of one hundred and fifty ^{mounted} Chiriquians and fifty Allisians, the latter having been mounted especially for this expedition. It is a fine command, the men are all of the first stripe.

You can form no idea of the intense interest of our march. The natural curiosities of the Country are not to be exceeded anywhere under the Sun. The whole Country is entirely volcanic and the various fantastic shapes that the freaks of nature have given it must grow of infinite interest

THE WESTERN MAILS

NAVAHO EXPEDITION 1848

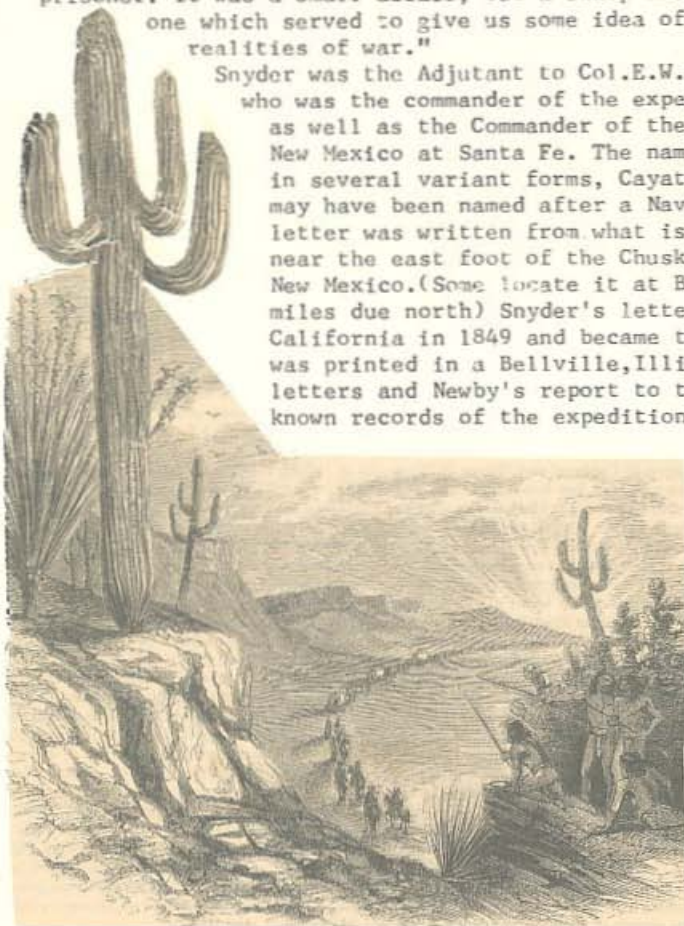
Letter written by Wm.H.Snyder from "Camp at Monte Cuietana two hundred and fifty miles from Santa Fe May 12th 1848." reporting the expedition and the treaty with the Navahos. Snyder writes to his brother: "I gladly embrace the opportunity of sending you a few lines from the Navajo Country. After a march of ten days we have found, a permanent encampment and should the Navajos not come to such terms as we desire, we will stay in the Country until we have compelled them to do as we desire....Our force consists of one hundred and fifty mounted Missourians and fifty Illinoisans, the latter having been mounted especially for this expedition." He then comments on the country that they have passed through in great detail, describing the ruins of the Pueblo Pintado in the Valley of the Rio Chaco. This area is now in the Chaco Canyon National Monument. To continue his letter: "You will get a full account of our brush with the Navajos, in the letter I sent to Gelwicks. We killed three (Col.Newby reported 4) and took one prisoner. It was a small affair, but a sharp one and one which served to give us some idea of the realities of war."

Snyder was the Adjutant to Col.E.W.B.Newby who was the commander of the expedition

as well as the Commander of the Ninth Military Department of New Mexico at Santa Fe. The name "Monte de Cuietana" appears in several variant forms, Cayatana, Cuyetano,Cuyatana etc.It may have been named after a Navaho chief of that name. The letter was written from what is now known as Washington Pass near the east foot of the Chuska Mountains in northwestern New Mexico.(Some locate it at Beautiful Mountain about forty miles due north) Snyder's letter to Gelwicks, who went to California in 1849 and became the California state printer, was printed in a Bellville,Illinois newspaper. These two letters and Newby's report to the War Department are the only known records of the expedition.



"NARBONA" one of the Chiefs of the Navahos who signed the treaty with Col.Newby. Sketch by R.H.Kern, August 31, 1849.



In Newby's report he stated that after a short engagement, in which four Indians were killed, the Principal Chiefs came in and a treaty was made, but it was never ratified by Congress. The expedition had been sent out because of Navaho deprivations against the Mexicans. The letter on opposite page was carried by a military express to Santa Fe & thence up the Santa Fe Trail to Fort Leavenworth where it was placed on a steamboat for St.Louis as per the "STEAM 10" marking of that office. The name Navaho is also spelled Navajoe, or Navaho.

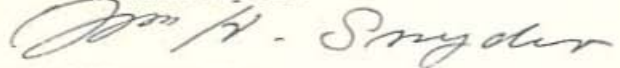
THE WESTERN MAILS

"Santa Fe ,New Mexico/April 24th 1848"

The following extracts are from Wm.H.Snyder's letter to his brother John back in Illinois. " We have had here the mildest winter that I ever experienced. Snow has visited us but very seldom and then it fell but lightly - disappearing invariably within the space of twenty four hours. Sliegh riding is a sport that can never be enjoyed in this country and the consequent absorbing character of the soil, that the heaviest snows disappear almost instantaneously. We have no out door sports here, all our enjoyments are inside and of these dancing cuts the most conspicuous figure. We have enjoyed ourselves in this, to the fullest extent, and we have nearly all avrtaged a dance every other night ,since we came to this Country. . . . The Mexicans are strict observers of Lent Though they are desperate scoundrels, they are nevertheless strict observers of the ceremonies of their creed. during Lent there has not been a single Fandango . Yet [when this] and Easter Sunday are scarcely over, when the thing is opened again with full blast. For several weeks to come there will be a dance every night. Spring here is much worse than winter. . . cold weather and almost continuous rain since the last day of February.

Next Monday, (1st May) I am off, for a campaign against the Navijo Indians. Our detachment will consist of one hundred and fifty Missouri Volunteers, under Maj. Reynolds and fifty Illinoisans, who have been mounted for that purpose under command of Capt, Moses of our Regt. the whole under command of Col. Newby [Edward W. B.]. Our campaign will lie through one of the roughest and most desolate regions in the world, being that Country between this territory and the California basin. It is one continuous succession of extinguished volcanos, We have been lying here cramped up in a garrison long enough and are determnd to have a fight if such a thing is possible. . . . You need not however discontinue writing or sending me papers for upon the arrival of every mail here, an express will be sent on after us, with such matters as belongs to the detachment. . *. Governor [Manuel] Armijo, was captured by Genl [Sterling] Price in an action last month at Santa Cruz. He is now upon his parole and residing at Albuquerque . We are daily expecting his arrival here. After all that I have heard and read about him, I assure you that my anxiety to see him is not small. I wonder how the old fellow will feel when he finds me, a U.S. Volunteer occupying the most spacious room in his old Palace [of the Governors]? Our news from South Mexico as well as from the U.S. induce us to believe that peace will soon be made, if that is not already the case, and when I come home I will bring you many curious and valuable presents. Nearly every citizen is a nobleman, and the great wonder among them is not seeing a man drunk, but at seeing him sober. . . . they convened a court martial of Lords and grand dukes , to try an aged Baron, by the name of Jim Curlin, because he happend to be caught sober. . . . " !

" Wm H. Snyder. "



John C. Moses was captain of Co. D, 1st Regiment of Illinois Vol's. Col. Edward W. B. Newby was mustered out of service in 1848 and reenlisted as a Captain in 1855. He retired in 1863 and died March 29, 1870. Armijo was not captured. He fled to Chihuahua, but returned to Santa Fe , becoming a citizen of the Territory of New Mexico. On December 13, 1853 the Territorial Legislature "Resolved, That this Council has heard with profound regret of the death of our distinguished citizen, General Armijo, who expired on the 9th day of this month". SEE Wm. H. Snyder letter written while on Newby's Navajo expedition from "CAMP at MONTE de CUIETANA two hundred and fifty miles from Santa Fe [west] May 12th 1848" in this collection.

Santa Fe New Mexico
April 24th 1848,

Dear John,

I can never be sufficiently thankful to you for being so punctual in sending papers and so ready in answering my letters. You afford me infinite satisfaction by so doing. I assure you. You are well pleased you say at receiving long letters from me, but I assure you that a long letter, with me here, is the most arduous possible task and I will be well pleased should I find enough to write about, to render my letter of a papable length.

We have had here the mildest winter that I ever experienced. Snow has visited us but very seldom and then it fell but lightly - disappearing invariably within the space of twenty four hours. High riding is a sport that can never be enjoyed in this country, for such is the dryness of the climate and the consequent absorbing character of the soil, that the heaviest snows disappear almost instantaneously. We have no out of door sports here, all our enjoyments are inside and of these dancing cuts the most conspicuous feature. We have enjoyed ourselves in this, to the fullest extent, and our own society all averaged a dance every other night, since we came to the country. In fact I am utterly surprised that we have ever

THE WESTERN MAILS

KIT CARSON IS OUR GUIDE.

"Santa Fe, New Mexico July 17, 1849"

Edward T. Tremaine writes to David Ladd that he has been appointed as a Deputy Collector of Customs and will probably be stationed at San Diego, California. He then describes his journey down the Santa Fe Trail from Fort Leavenworth as follows: "We have had a tedious and tiresome journey thus far, owing to circumstances which were unavoidable after having started, the most important of which was overloading our teams. We started from Fort Leavenworth on the 17th of May - our own party consisted of about 30 men on horse back. We had an Escort of 50 Dragoons, with 35 six mule waggons carrying baggage and provisions for 150 days, for each man - we have been just 56 days on our journey, tho we have had on account of our Animals been obliged to lay bye about 15 days in all - After striking the big Arkansas River, where we met with two or three thousand indians, all however friendly - we continued to travel up towards its source some 10 days when we crossed it and struck right across a sandy barren desert, some 70 miles [Cimarron route of the Santa Fe Trail], and crossed the Cimarron - This rout is generally passed without water, tho we were very fortunate in having had a very heavy rain the night before we started, which filled up all the holes and supplied us with water (such as it was) all the way through - This is by far the most unpleasant part of the whole rout, vegetation is very sparce, no game, either in the air or on the plain - which by the way is literelly a plain, it is perfectly level the whole of that distance, not a tree or a shrub did we see for over 130 miles, no rain, and a hot scorching sun all day. The nights however were generally very cold. After having passed over this distance about 130 miles, the scene began to change, we saw more trees, the plain became more rolling, high hills began to rise in the distance, mountains soon appeared, and in time we began to see the tops of the Raton Mountains, their tops capped with the snows of many winters, glistening in the sunbeams, this was the richest sight I think I ever saw, and it seemed strange that we should be almost melting in the rays of a scorching sun, while on our right apparently but a short distance from were hughe balls of snow, which had stood the test of ages. After passing on we soon travelled over the lowest part of these Mountains, (tho still far below the snow) amid . . . pine timber - and finally arrived here about noon on Thursday the 12th - most of the way the road has been excellent, except through the desert which was sandy. in fact I never saw a better natural road. Most of it is as good as any road you can find within 5 miles of Cleveland - the distance is said to be about 750 miles of which 500 at least are excellent - Santa Fe is nothing under the Heavens but a collection of mud houses as you approach it looks very much like a large brick yard, before the bricks are burnt. The houses are all of one story & built of what the natives call Adobes, a sun burnt brick - they are nothing more than sods, cut from the ground about 15X8 inches thick, dried in the sun until they are hard enough to handel, & then put up with mud - the roof are all flat, there is no regularity to the streets & the natives are a most miserable looking set of beings. We shall remain here probably a week longer and then proceed direct to San Francisco on Pack Mules, with Kit Carson as our guide - where we expect to arrive in about 40 days - We anticipate a hurried a tiresome journey & we all wish most heartily that it was accomplished, but we are possessed with considerable patience & perseverance & I doubt not that we shall finally get there - Edw T. Tremaine."

The 1855 Official U.S. Register lists Tremaine as a customs collector at San Diego. Apparently, he did not succumb to the "gold rush fever", as many did in 1849.

THE WESTERN MAILS

Santa Fe. New Mexico.
July 17, 1849.

My Dear Sir,

Through the kindness of a friend in Rosam. I rec^d
your favor while in Camp a few miles from Fort Leavenworth about the latter
part of May last. It was in answer to one I wrote you some time previous in
regard to the said land &c. I regret exceedingly that you could not have

met at an earlier day
that matter arranged
I fear all the winter
any means decided to
I was much in hopes that
tunity which I have
one week from the time
Rosam. in case for the
is impossible for me to do
previous been informed by

Santa Fe
July 17/49.

David Ladd Esq

Pomystown

Wood Co
Ohio

to take that he would take the land if I would take the costs - I wrote you
to this effect, requesting you to inform me of the amount, and the only answer
I rec^d was the one referred to above. I treat the matter as much as you wish to do

U. S. MILITARY OCCUPATION OF SANTA FE.

Santa Fe, July 17 / 49. Cover bears the latest recorded postmark under the military government. Carried up the Santa Fe Trail by a military express or a civilian freighter. SEE content of letter on opposite page. It is very probable that Kit Carson did act as their guide, but only long enough to get them started in the right direction. In Jan/Feb of 1849 Charles Fremont spent three weeks with Carson and he wanted Kit to go onto California with him, but Carsons wife was pregnant and this was probably the reason he did not go. She gave birth to their first-born who only survived a few months and this could have been the reason he did not go all the way west with the Tremaine party. Fremont took the southern route and that was probably the same route followed by the Tremaine party.

THE WESTERN MAILS



BOONEVILLE, COLORADO TERRITORY

Located about 20 miles east of Pueblo and 62 miles west north-west of Bent's Fort. It was established by Albert Gallatin Boone, the grandson of Daniel Boone and nephew of Col. Nathan L. Boone, U.S. Army. The Post Office was established Jan. 2, 1863 with Boone as the first postmaster.



Col. A. G. Boone.

The postmark shown above was used as the dateline on Boone's letter and is the only known example of the Type I postmark. Boone writes: "Your favor of Agst 20 by Cape Horn & San Francisco reached me by last nights

Robert Campbell to
 Yours favor of Agst 20 by
 Cape Horn & San Francisco reached me
 by last nights mail written by Mrs Boone

The last I heard of the wool
 it had arrived at Council Grove Kan
 and would be shipped by first train to
 Leavenworth care of H. W. Chuk
 to be forwarded to you

This line of Communication
 has and will be kept open Indian
 troubles to the contrary do I therefore
 pray send no more letters by the
 Sandwich Islands as the Coach
 arrived in 11 to 12 days from St. Louis
 at my door,

Please remind my subscription
 for the Republican and Change to a life

and above all drop me a line
 occasionally I love to hear from America
 Peace prevails now the Country is

mail....The last I heard of the wool it had arrived at Council Grove Kan and would be shipped by first train to Leavenworth care of H. W. Chuk to be forwarded to you. This line of communication has and will be kept open Indian troubles to the contrary do I therefore pray sent no mor letters by the Sandwich Islands as the Coach (stage) arrives in 11 to 12 days from St. Louis at my door.....And above all drope me a lineI love to hear from America - Peace prevails now the country is burried in snow but what the spring may bring forth with such a sett of Asses to govern the country is more than I can tell - I keep 50 Garibalda Rifles ready for all emergencys and while Democracy prevails as it did at the last Election I hope to live an other year but I pray for Peace Peace Peace - Could I only hear that Little Mc (Geo. B. McClellan defeated by Lincoln 10 days before this letter was written) was Elected I would send you a Beaver tail - What is Beaver & Castor worth - I have caught 50 for amusement..."



THE WESTERN MAILS



SANTA FE TRAIL

OLATHE KAN JUL 23 [1857]. Post Office established in Johnson Co. on May 4, 1857.

BALDWIN CITY KAN MAR 25. Post Office established in Dougals Co. on May 22, 1862.



Fort Leavenworth

Missouri Territory May 14th 1848

Dear Father

Your letter of the 5th instant was received yesterday 8 days after it was mailed - It was a great relief to hear from you once more after so long a silence.

I am very sorry that any expression in my last letter was wounding to your feelings & that I was so inconsiderate as to write anything that could possibly be construed or understood to that effect, certainly nothing could have been further from my intention.

Conscious of the worthiness of the motives which impelled me to my present course, I made the remark in question rather as one of self satisfaction & pride of heart of the motives which actuated me: & not in any degree a feeling of servile obligation or any other than that which gratified that pride & vanity to which I so naturally incline. I hope Susan may pass safely through her coming trials & that her husband may get back before they come.

You do not speak of your own health but I venture to hope it as good as usual My own is ab quite as good as usual if not better, Mine is a real camp life now with the exception that we are quartered at present in Barracks in place of Tents. I bathe in the Mo. River almost every day i use such other means promotive of health as I can. The weather since I arrived here which was on the 28th of April, has been cool, but pleasant, we had quite a severe frost on the 10th inst.

This Fort is beautifully situated on the left bank of the Mo. River 482 miles from St. Louis & 993 miles from Santa Fee. the "Great Plains" which intervene & which we have to cross, come up almost in sight of the fort; a vast amount of Government stores are collected here of almost every kind in the way of transports Provisions munitions of war & men The first train ~~is~~ is expected to start on tomorrow (monday) & the last about the 20th or monday following; in it I expect to go; there are 6

on the Plains, 25 miles from the fort, owing to
the very heavy rains that have fallen we have
not been able to advance farther. The country we
have traversed is without exception the most
beautiful & nearly as rich as any I have ever
seen in my country. The water is good &
the air remarkably pure & healthy - This must
be a healthy country. Write all, soon as You can

Get some one to back it who writes a good hand.
I will write again first opportunity. - write soon
as letters can come by dispatches that will be
leaving the fort for two or three weeks to come.
Yours ever aff. Son E. B. Bateman

10
Westport Mo.
July 12

Burgin Bateria Esq
Jacksonville
Illinois

+ direct to (Dr. E. B. Bateman
Col^l Eastons Command
1st Infantry Battalion
Missouri Volunteers
Santepee
Via Fort Leavenworth.)

THE WESTERN MAILS

SANTA FE
MILITARY EXPRESS
ON THE
SANTA FE TRAIL

per
Santa Fe
Express.



FORT MANN was located on the Santa Fe Trail about 26 miles below the "Cimarron Crossing" of the Arkansas River. It was an adobe stockade built about 1846 by the U.S. Government as a repair and supply depot for the army. In freighting days it was 359 miles from Fort Leavenworth and 423 miles from Santa Fe. The post was abandoned in 1854. The cover shown above is datelined Fort Mann Upper Arkansas Dec. 6, 1847. Captain Napoleon Koscialowski, of the Indian Battalion of the Missouri Volunteers, writes his desire to resign to President James K. Polk. The per Santa Fe Express is the military express between Leavenworth and Santa Fe. It was 18 days in transit to Fort Leavenworth where it entered the U.S. mails. the 10 cents has been written over with an f because it would be FREE to the President.

Encampment of "Army of the West"
near "Bent's Fort" Arkansas
River
July 31st 1846.

BENT'S FORT. Col. S.W. Kearny arrived near the fort on July 29, 1846. Lt. W.N. Grier was a member of the 1st Dragoons who escorted Kearny who had left from Fort Leavenworth June 30th. The cover

was put in the mails as per postmark at FORT LEAVENWORTH Aug 31 - just 30 days from the day it was written! Grier reports that "On the march, the wagon containing my baggage was overturned in fording a creek - my public accounts were damaged". He hopes to send them in when they get to Santa Fe where they arrived on August 18th, the same day Kearny took possession of New Mexico for the U.S.





From the Army of the West

SANTA FE TRAIL. In 1846 Stephan W. Kearny's Army of the West marched down this trail to the conquest of New Mexico and California. After reaching Santa Fe Kearny divided the Army, sending A.W. Doniphan with troops to Chihuahua, Mexico, and then proceeding to California after leaving Col. Sterling Price with a force of occupation in Santa Fe. In order to keep the lines of communication open a military express was established with Fort Leavenworth. The cover shown above was carried over this route, in January/March of 1848.

The cover shown below originated at Santa Fe on November 20, 1848 but did not reach Fort Leavenworth until February 1, 1849. In the letter the writer states "The Express Mail leaves on tomorrow the 20th by a friend & acquaintance of mine (Mr. Newman) who offers to take my letters in his private packages & will probably reach Ft. Leavenworth in about 20 days." One can only ponder as to why it was seventy three days in transit. The manuscript postmark on this cover is probably a military marking as the U.S. Post Office was not established at Santa Fe until October 1, 1849 although the Territory of New Mexico was not established until December 13, 1850. Previous to this it was under American Military Occupation.





I N D



The Santa Fe Trail and the Santa Fe Mails

The first mails over the Santa Fe Trail were carried by individuals and military express. It was not until July 1, 1850 that mule drawn wagons were used to carry the mails and by 1854 the first stagecoach had made its appearance. By 1866 Barlow & Sanderson's **Southern Overland Mail & Express Company** were operating stages between Kansas City and Santa Fe via Bents Fort. During the 1870s the stage lines were being replaced by the railroads which were building their way west. The end came in January of 1880 when the last coach carrying the Santa Fe Mails rolled into history. The cover shown above was postmarked at Kansas City December 31, 1879.

THE WESTERN MAILS



My Dear Father = Chihuahua March 6th 1847

The army under Gen Doniphan's command made a triumphal entry into this city on the evening of the 2nd of March after a hard and well fought battle on the 28th

(Sunday)
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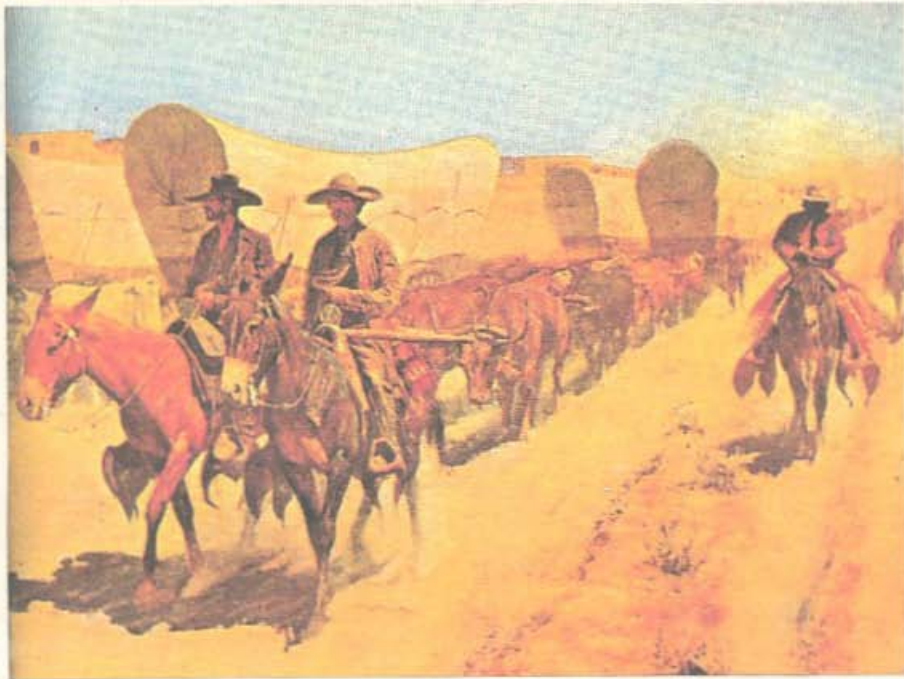
opened upon them... about the fifteen hundred men but we

From the Army of the West

DONIPHAN'S EXPEDITION and the BATTLE OF SACRAMENTO Feb. 28 1847. An eyewitness account of the battle by Lt. Hinton of the Missouri Horse Guards vividly describing the action. The letter is written on the captured stationary of the Governor of Chihuahua. It was probably carried by military express, north to Santa Fe and thence up the Santa Fe Trail to Independence, Missouri. The handstamp in the upper right hand of the cover appears to be a spread eagle and probably belonged to the Governor, or was it a postal marking? In any event, it was probably used in the same vein as the Governor's stationary and never entered the Mexican mails. Hinton writes: "We met the enemy in force at 'Sacramento' a 'rancho' ... 25 miles north (Chihuahua, Mexico) ... They had fortified ... and mounted 12 pieces of cannon ... we limbered our guns and advanced about 200 yards and let them have it ... then set the mounted riflemen after them ... the enemy fled in confusion."

... and fifty yards. The enemy were firing at us from forty to one hundred
would not let the ...

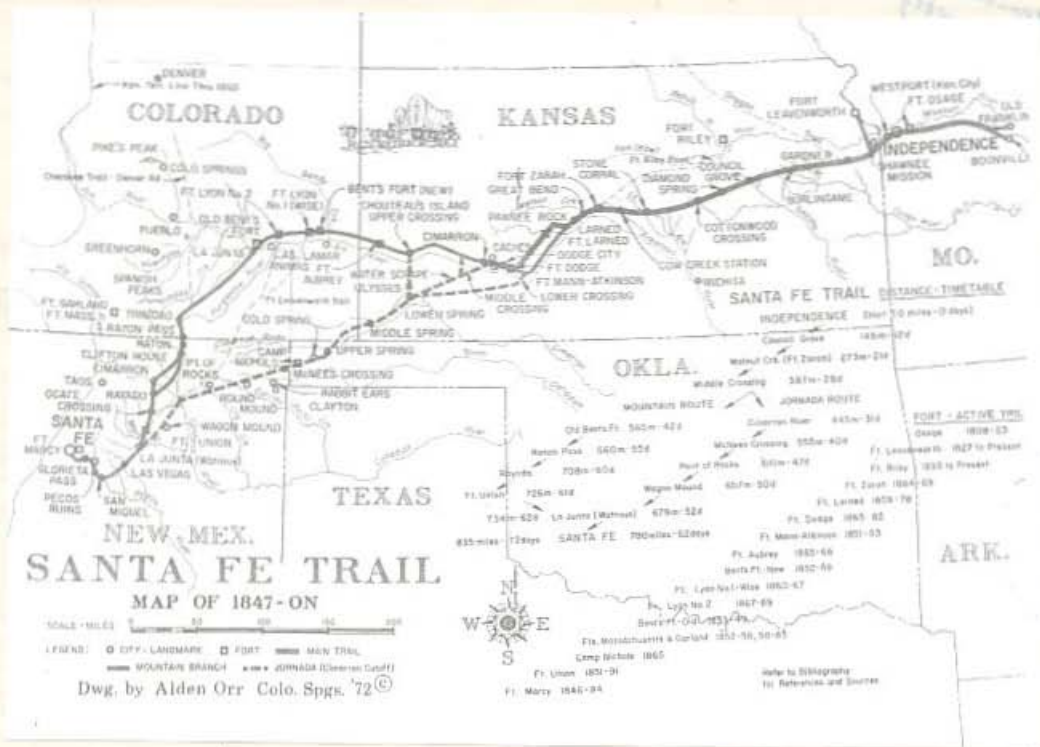
AND SHEET PROTECTOR W-11



no 1 stage way picture

1847-48
1848-49
1849-50

AND SHEET PROTECTOR W-11



DR. CARROLL CHASE
R. F. D. 11
PENACOOK, NEW HAMPSHIRE

September 5th, 1941.

Mr. C.W. Kanaga,
Jenkins Music Company,
1217 Walnut Street,
Kansas City, Mo.

My dear Mr. Kanaga:

It was very kind of you to send the territorial covers on inspection. I return them herewith by registered mail to be on the safe side. Of course the star piece is the Shawnee, which I have never seen, but the others are nice too and I am glad to have records of them.

Thanking you again, I am

Yours very truly,

Carroll Chase.

cc/jc

The Denver City C.T. is also a rare type which I have seen but two, including yours.

cc.

Refers
To Shawnee
straight line
apparently
the only one
ever found -
CWC

Shawnee, Kas



SHAWNEE K.T. ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL.

The post office was established on May 19, 1857 and discontinued on July 31, 1860. It was located in Johnson county and was the first camp site on the Santa Fe trail after leaving Westport Landing on the Missouri river. Shawnee was sacked and burned by Quantrill and his guerrilla band on October 17, 1862 which was the prelude to the more famous raid and burning of Lawrence in 1863. The cover shown above is the only recorded example of the straight line postmark - "SHAWNEE KAS" - used May 7, 1859.

THE WESTERN MAILS



SANTA FE NEW MEXICO MAR 1 (1851). The Post Office was established on October 1, 1849, while still under a military government. It was over one year before the Territory of New Mexico was established on December 13, 1850. Both covers were used on the same date in 1851 and bear the Type I postmark of Santa Fe. The 5¢ 1847 stamp was originally a horizontal pair before the right hand stamp was damaged when the envelope was opened. Later the damaged stamp was cut away. It is the only recorded use of the 1847 issue from New Mexico. Both covers are addressed in the hand of Major Shepherd who was stationed at Fort Marcy in Santa Fe in 1850-51. The numeral "10" was the proper rate on both covers for over 300 miles.

Oliver Lathrop Shepherd graduated from West Point July 1, 1833. He rose to the rank of captain and then major for meritorious conduct in the battle of Contreras, Churubusco and Chapultepec in the Mexican War. Later to Brig. General in the Civil War. He died April 15, 1894.

THE WESTERN MAILS



SANTA FE N.M. / MAY 1 1852. Folded letter bears the type II handstamped postmark. Cover below bears the type V postmark - SANTA FE N.MEX/MAY 27 1861. This is the type V handstamped postmark.



THE WESTERN MAILS



PAWNEE FORK

PAWNEE FORK, K.T. Military post established as "Camp on the Pawnee Fork" in October 1859. It was located on Pawnee Creek about eight miles from its confluence with the Arkansas river in the Kansas Territory. The site was chosen by Wm Bent to control the Indians and protect the commerce of the Santa Fe Trail. The post office was established at the post on November 30, 1859 under the name PAWNEE FORK. Although the post was renamed FORT LARNED by the War Department in 1860, the Post Office Department continued the old name until April 4, 1866. The P.O. was discontinued Sept. 28, 1881 and the post abandoned by the military on Oct. 4, 1882. Today most of the buildings still stand on the original site and are in a remarkable state of preservation and open to the public.

THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT LARNED, KANSAS.

Post Office established as PAWNEE FORK November 30, 1859 and then renamed FORT LARNED on April 4, 1866. It was discontinued September 28, 1881. SEE PAWNEE FORK ON opposite page.



Arrow Rock Mo
Jan 30
Paid 3

Mrs. Sally A. Harrison
Care of Williams & Tompkins
St. Louis

FRANKLIN,
MO.

James Evans Franklin
St. Louis
Missouri
FRANKLIN,
MO.
Aug. 14

Total
April 16. 1823

18 1/2
18 1/2
37

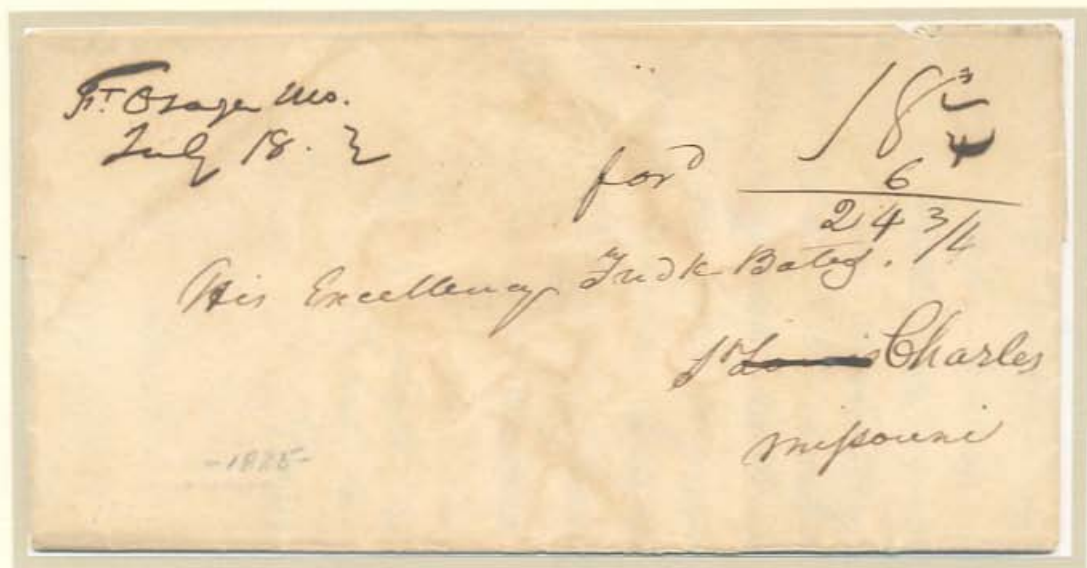


FRANKLIN MO Aug. 14 [1823]. Town and post office established 1817. It was from here that William Becknell led the first trade expedition down the SANTA FE TRAIL in 1821. In 1828 the town was washed away by the Missouri River. Although, the town was rebuilt 2 miles inland it became OLD FRANKLIN in reference to the rebuilt town. Cover

shown originated at Botetourt County, Virginia January 27, 1823. Addressed to "James Evans Franklin" (Franklin crossed out?) at Saint Louis, Missouri where it must have been forwarded to "Potosi April 16 and then to FRANKLIN Aug. 14th. Note on reverse "Recd August 28th 1823 James Evans". Rate 18 1/2 to St. Louis plus 18 1/2 Potosi to Franklin, for a total of 37 cents collect. No explanation for the long time in transit

Arrow Rock Mo Jan 30 [1851] Paid 3. Post Office established before 1832. The following extract are from the letter : " Frank... came running in, and told me there was a whole passel of people walking in the snow up in the lane... Till came in really pale with fright, and told us that they were indians, and that two of them were coming to the house. while she spoke they came in and asked permission to stay all night saying that one of the squaws was sick and that they had their own bedding. we gave a very reluctant consent. there were two squaws, four men, and one little boy - we gave them supper (and you have some idea of how they eat) and then told them that they must sleep in the passage. their bedding consisted of a blanket spread on the floor. we gave them breakfast, after which they started, and I can safely say I never was more rejoiced to get rid of a parcel of filthy wretches in my life. as soon as they started, I had to have both rooms washed and I verily believe I will not get rid of the stench for a week. I would infinitely prefer being in a pen with so many hogs. but enough of the indians..... your Ma [Mrs. Harrison]" .

THE WESTERN MAILS

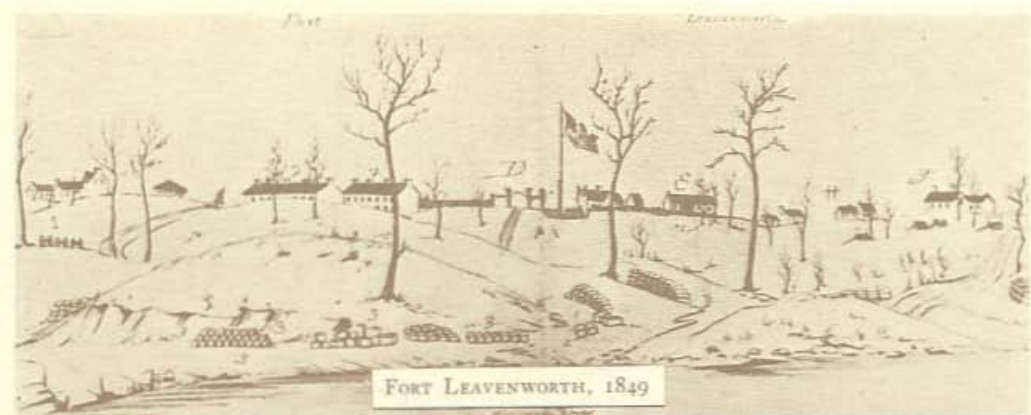


FORT OSAGE - SANTA FE TRAIL

FORT OSAGE was established by General William Clark in the fall of 1808. He had observed its strategic location on his expedition with Meriwether Lewis in 1804. It was built by a company of the 1st U.S. Infantry under command of Captain Eli B. Clemson in the fall of 1808. The fort was a log stockade situated on a high bluff on the left bank of the Missouri River near the town of Sibley, Missouri. It also contained an Indian factory to trade with Osage, Kansa and Iowa tribes with George C. Sibley as factor or trader. Up to 1820 it was the most extreme frontier settlement and important trading post in the United States. It was also a way station on the Santa Fe Trail which had been opened in 1821. With the establishment of Fort Leavenworth in 1827 the post was abandoned. The post office was established in 1820.

Folded letter is the resignation of B.H. Reeves as Lt. Governor of Missouri to Governor Frederick Bates. Reeves had been appointed commissioner of the "Mexican road" (Santa Fe Trail). Bates died sometime after this letter was written.

THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT LEAVENWORTH This fort was established by Col. Henry Leavenworth May 8, 1827 and was first called Cantonment Leavenworth. It is located on the west bank of the Missouri River, about 23 miles above the mouth of the Kansas River, in what is now the state of Kansas. At the time it was established the area west of the river was unorganized and was called "The Missouri Country", having been left over after the formation of the state of Missouri. The post office was established on May 29, 1828 and was attached to Missouri for administrative reasons until the formation of the Kansas Territory May 30, 1854. The cover shown bears the earliest known postmark of June 16, 1829. It is addressed to the Indian Agent at Fort Snelling in present day Minnesota. Leavenworth also founded Fort Snelling in 1819. Fort Leavenworth was the outfitting and starting point for most of the western military expeditions through the 1850's. It was from this fort that "The Army of the West" marched to New Mexico and California and Albert Sidney Johnson's "Army of Utah" marched to the valley of the Great Salt Lake.



Det Seavermoth July the 9 1827

Dear Mother. I now take my pen in hand to
inform you that I am well at this time & sincerely
hoping these few lines may find you enjoying the same
blessing the left Allen the 22 of June & landed at
this place the 28 the boys are all well that you are repair
ter with me the exception of Gordon O'Connell who has just
got over the measles two or three of the Companies' belonging
to this regiment left for Santa Fe a few days ago but it is
not known when we will leave however it will not being
I want you to write to me as soon & as often as you can direct
your letters to Company No first regiment Allens return
here on the route to Santa Fe Preston Sibley is a volunteer
in the Clinton Company in the regiment Det Seavermoth
is pleasantly & handsomely situated on the west bank of the
Missouri river nearly 500 miles from its mouth on the
state you will see a plot of the Det term & encampment
I have seen many Indians in this place the Indians make
exactly like the men you had respect to all enquiring
friend especially to the girls not that I care
do no more at present but remain your affectionate
son till death

Wm. May of Kansas
Wm. May of Kansas



encampment of the Illinois volunteers

Wm. H. ...





THE COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF SCHOOL
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

October 4, 1937

Mr. S. H. Jones
Lyons Publishing Company
Lyons, Kansas

My dear Mr. Jones:

I am indeed grateful for lending me the 1847 letter. The sketch contained therein confirms the locations of many of the old buildings. The photographs, as you will see, came out especially well and I am inclosing you a complete set.

With regard to the post office stamp, our History of Fort Leavenworth indicates that Kansas became a territory in 1854. Prior to this time the Fort Leavenworth reservation consisted of territory on both sides of the Missouri River, that on the west side was a portion set aside from the lands claimed by the Delaware Indians, and that on the east side was a portion of the State of Missouri. It appears natural, therefore, that in opening a Post Office at Fort Leavenworth in 1829 they should use the only political division of the United States recognized at that time. This is the only explanation I can give you but I believe it is approximately correct.

Thank you again for your kindness in letting me have this letter.

Sincerely yours

F. GILBREATH
Lieut. Colonel, Cavalry
Executive Officer

Encl
1847 ltr
photo copy 1847 ltr
stamps 21¢

HEADQUARTERS
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

4 October 1955

Mr. Lee H. Cornell
302 Orpheum Building
Wichita 2, Kansas

Dear Mr. Cornell:

Lieutenant Colonel John E. Beebe has presented to the Post Museum the photostat of the Thomas letter and the map of "Nebraska and Kansas" which he received from you.

We are delighted to have both items, but particularly the plan on the back of the letter. One of our major fields of interest at the present time is to acquire a better knowledge of the layout of the Post in its early days, and your contribution will be of great value in this endeavor.

On behalf of the Commandant, Major General Garrison H. Davidson, I wish to thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Sincerely,



LOUIS BUTNER
Colonel, GS
Chairman, Post Historical Committee

THE WESTERN MAILS

*Arkansaw River on day march
from Pawnee Forks June 27th 1847*

"My dear Nephew - When I last wrote you I was at Council Grove on my way to Santa Fe. After leaving there we proceeded on our journey and nothing of note happened until we reached Pawnee Forks, where we arrived just one day too late to have had an encounter with a party of Comanches & Pawnees, who attacked a homeward bound train of waggons and drove off over one hundred oxen and wounding some of the men - We found here two government ox trains of thirty waggons each, which started the next day with us - Two other trains of thirty waggons each had started some two or three days ahead. Well we travelled some 16 to 18 miles and encamped on the Arkansaw [river] - At Revielle or light the next morning we discovered that the Indians had made a charge on Haydens train and were driving off their oxen. The order to saddle and mount our horses was given and in a few moments all were in the saddle. I was among the first in the ranks, but was ordered to remain behind to help guard the camp. About Twenty one men (only) started off in pursuit of the Indians - opposite to us on the other side of the River, was a large crowd of Indians, ready to cross and fall on our camp if we sent away all our men - Our men (21) headed by a sergeant made a gallant charge on the Indians and they all commenced to run off - At this the Indians on the other side, run their horses up the river a few hundred yards - crossed and charged in rear after our men. The Indians in front seeing this, turned around and there was our poor fellows with enemies in front & rear and ten to one at least - (When the Indians commenced crossing the river I foresaw the result and wanted only twenty men to attack them and keep them from attacking our men in the rear but our commanding officer Lt Love [John, later Maj. General] would not send the men and so the result was horrid to relate. I make no comment, but have facts to speak for themselves) There was at least two hundred warriors all mounted, with Lances, bows & arrows & a few guns - and all of them on trained horses and themselves the best horsemen in the world. This could not last only a few moments, when our men made a retreat for camp at the top of their horses speed - They got by this time all the cattle, some 70 or 80 yoke of oxen across the river and had about one hundred and fifty men on foot doing that part. The first man in was Sergt Bishop, wounded with a bullet just above his kidneys - He is not yet thought to dangerous, although it is rather doubtful - The next was a young man by the name of Vancaster son of a German Baron, who fell from loss of blood & c off his horse some 200 yds from camp. Besides being lanced, he had an arrow, still in him, which entered under the right arm and the steel point was sticking out clear through him just above his heart. He still is living but his case is thought hopeless - The next was the Ferrier [horseshoer - blacksmith] of the company - Seeing he was fainting I run out, several hundred yards from camp and held him on his horse until he got in. He held on to his saber until I told him to let go his grasp - His case is doubtful - Another came in lanced in the back and is very bad today, but not dangerous - Two belonging to my mess were slightly wounded with lances - The roll was called and we found five men missing & [a] party of us mounted and went over the field of battle and the first one we found was the dead body of a fine young man of my mess named Arlidge - He was stripped of his clothing, but his scalp was not taken - Then on looking around we found the dead bodies of three more men, Blake - Short - & Dickhart - all of them horribly butchered - Short beside being lanced in a dozen places had his throat cut from ear to ear - Dickhart had his ears cut off and mouth mutilated. All of these three had their scalps taken - We buried them all in one grave with honours of war. The fifth man - Gaskin - we did not find until this morning - he was dreadfully mutilated, his scalp was not taken, but about half his hair was pulled out, I suppose the one that killed him had no knife about him - So you see we had five brave fellows

THE WESTERN MAILS



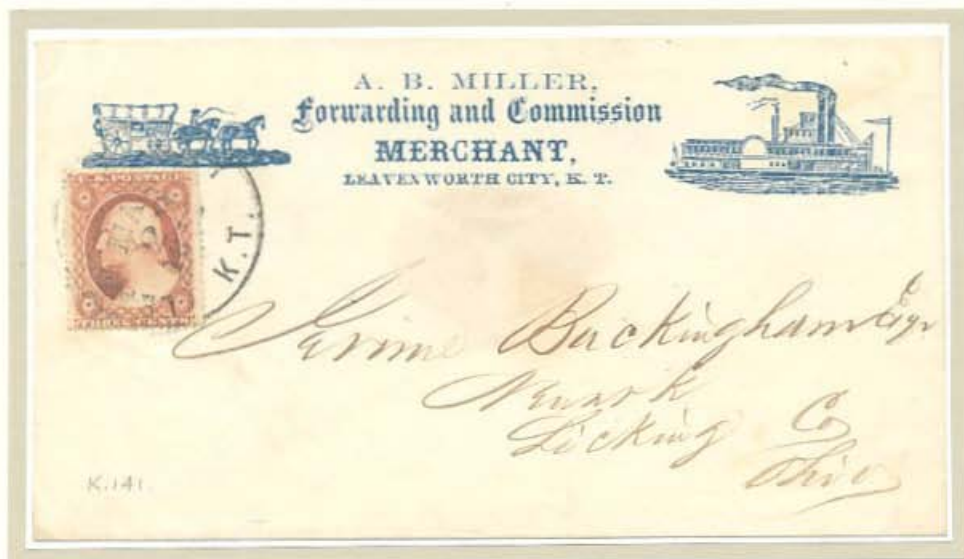
taken suddenly from us and six wounded - four of them badly - We do not know for a certainty how many of the Indians were killed as they always take the dead away with them, but it cannot fall short of thirty, for almost all of our men killed one and those of our men that got killed, each killed from two to four & five. The Indians have not as yet made another attack, but we expect nothing else every moment. We are now well prepared for them. The two ox trains lay close along side of us and we shall remain here until we can get cattle to take along the waggons. There are, some days behind us several hundred head of cattle going to Santa Fe, which when they come up will I suppose be put in [to pull the wagons] the waggons. We have just learned the Indians have taken and destroyed the new fort lately built at Jackson Grove near the crossing of the Arkansas. They killed three men, the rest escaped with a six pounder [gun] and have gone on to Santa Fe with Smiths train as guards &c - We are somewhat fearful they [Indians] will in a few days bring a still larger number and give us battle. I do not think they can harm us, as long as we remain encamped as we now are - and very soon we will have a reinforcement as several companies of volunteers are on the road - Almost all the men remain under arms day & night - I have given you a hasty and but impartial account of this tragic event and one must be on the spot & participate in the scenes to have any idea - It may be my fate never more to return if such should be the case it is my wish that whatever may be due me by government as well as my other property shall become your own - I will write again when I arrive at Santa Fe.....if you see me no more spare a moment to think of your Uncle M. I. Baker.... P S An Express starts at dusk for Fort Leavenworth by which send you this letter. I hope it may get through safe. M. I. Baker".

Both of Baker's letters were carried to Fort Leavenworth, up the Santa Fe trail by a "military express". As per letter above it was picked up "on the trail" at dusk on June 27th, with arrival at Fort Leavenworth on July 6th as per postmark. About 10 days travel time. Baker draws a word picture of the problems of moving "The Army of the West" down that other "pathway of invasion" to the conquest of Mexico. It is noteworthy, to quote Baker from his first letter: "The Mexicans have visited these tribes and made presents to induce to harrass & stop all American trains." ! No wonder they had to fight the Indians on the way to war! What a sight it must have been to see the great cavalcade of wagons loaded with provisions, arms and ammunition, pulled by teams of oxen!

THE WESTERN MAILS



LEAVENWORTH CITY, K.T. The post office was established March 6, 1855 in what was then WYANDOTTE County. Thence to LEAVENWORTH County August 25, 1855. The name of the post office was changed to LEAVENWORTH on May 31, 1871.



THE WESTERN MAILS



SANTA FE TRAIL

BALDWIN CITY KANS MAY 22 1882. Post Office established as PALMYRA in Douglas County June 29, 1857. changed to Baldwin City 1882 and then to Baldwin August 16, 1912.

BAKER UNIVERSITY is the oldest University in Kansas, established in 1858, three years before Kansas became a State. The battle of Black Jack, between the Free-staters, led by John Brown and a group of Pro-slavery men occurred here June 2, 1856.