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# LATEST from Arizona!

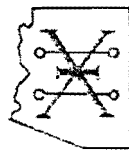
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THE HESPERIAN LETTERS, 1859-1861

Edited by

Constance Wynn Altshuler

*Map by Donald H. Bufkin*



ARIZONA PIONEERS' HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tucson, Arizona

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gagement are still at the post. Col. Reeve<sup>1</sup> has engaged Capt. Hilarión García as guide. This gentleman, who is a Sonorian, was commander of the military division of the Mexican army stationed in northern Sonora before the cession of this Territory to the United States. His headquarters were at Tubac, and he enjoys the reputation of being a brave officer, a good Indian fighter, and withal has a thorough knowledge of the country through which the command proposes to invade.

#### A Modification of Postal Laws Required

May I solicit the aid of your influential journal in bringing to the notice of the Postmaster General, the necessity of allowing letters to be mailed at this office and Tucson without pre-payment when sent up from Sonora. Many American citizens are traveling in that country where no stamps, of course, can be obtained, and they are compelled to send up their letters by private conveyance and trust to the generosity of the Postmaster here to pre-pay and forward. I have known a package of one dozen to arrive here by a single train. The Postmaster here [F. Hulseman] and the Director of the Sonora Exploring and Mining Company [S. H. Lathrop] have always forwarded them, but it is a heavy tax and should not be borne by a few individuals here when the Government can so readily remedy it by sending special instructions to the two officers of Tubac and Tucson. I believe our Postmaster has already laid the subject before the Department, and it is to be hoped his petition will be supported by many influential citizens in the States, as single-handed action seldom avails with Government officials.

#### More Border Scenes

Though a week has passed without Indian depredations, they were in the valley "prospecting." One of the lumber men at the pinery, some thirty miles from Tubac, was driven from his cabin five days ago and the Indians dined on his stock of provisions dur-

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### LATEST FROM ARIZONA

Tubac, Arizona, November 3, 1859.

Captain R. S. Ewell of Fort Buchanan, has received instructions from the President to enter Sonora with dispatches for Gov. Pesqueira, relative to the intentions of our Government to protect Captain Stone and his party in the prosecution of their scientific explorations of that State. The Captain, with an escort of American citizens, left Fort Buchanan yesterday. He will be gone three weeks. Col. A. B. Gray, the well-known explorer and surveyor, is one of his party.

\* \* \*

I regard it only as a question of time when Sonora shall become an integral part of our great Republic. It may be in a few months — it may be several years — but another decade will not elapse ere Sonora is wrested from Mexico.

#### Suspension of the Indian Campaign

I learn from a reliable source that the troops designed for the campaign against the Apaches will not march until after Capt. Ewell's return from Sonora. I gave you a full account in a previous letter of the preparations making for this campaign. One company of infantry has already marched to the rendezvous on the San Pedro, to protect the supplies, but those designed for the en-

<sup>1</sup> Reeve was a captain, and brevet lieutenant colonel. Brevet rank is discussed in Appendix 4.

ing his absence. This is the only instance so far as I can learn that they have been seen during the week.

Col. Titus, of the Union Mining Company, shot one of his Mexican employes two days ago. The fellow was impertinent, and when the Col. essayed to punish him, the peon raised a large stone-hammer as if to strike Titus when the latter, taking a pistol from the belt of a bystander shot at but missed the Mexican. A second shot took effect in the groin. Those who witnessed the transaction speak of it merely as an item of intelligence, without censuring the Colonel, from which I infer they consider him justifiable. The man is not dangerously wounded.

\* \* \*

St. Louis *Missouri Republican*  
November 22, 1859

## LETTER FROM ARIZONA

The Indian Expedition — Mining Intelligence.

Tubac, Nov. 24, 1859.

The departure of Capt. Ewell, 1st Dragoons, into Sonora as bearer of dispatches from the President to Pesqueira has not suspended, as I anticipated, the expedition against the Apaches. On the 7th inst., Capt. Elliott's command from the Rio Grande arrived at the "Tres Alamos," on the San Pedro, where Lieut. Cooke with some thirty men from Fort Buchanan had previously camped with commissary stores. Lieutenant Colonel Reeve, who had been ordered by the General of Division to command the expedition, had recovered from his second illness, and left Fort Buchanan on the 8th inst. with his quota of troops from that post, and upon arrival at the rendezvous pushed forward with the entire force of nearly two hundred men, intending to penetrate far into the Indian country. We have unofficial information to the effect that they have taken over twenty horses abandoned by the Indians in their flight but have no intelligence of any engagement. They left the rendezvous with but fifteen days' provisions, and it is feared this gross error will render the expedition a failure. They cannot, with this scanty supply, pursue the savages until they bring them to bay and compel them to sue for peace, and unless the expedition is decisive it were better to have a continuance of the "wise and masterly inactivity" with which our claims for protection have hitherto been treated by the Commander of the Department.

\* \* \*

Our mining interests are daily becoming more important. The Sonora Exploring and Mining Company have an engine en route for the works, which will arrive early next year, and enable the company to reduce their rich ore in quantities to render it very profitable to shareholders. They continue to get out weekly from five to eight hundred dollars, which is cast into small bars and affords a convenient circulating medium.<sup>1</sup> Their silver commands a premium of six per cent and more in the States, and Sonora merchants prefer it to gold. The Cababi Company is also making arrangements to introduce machinery and commence the work on an extensive scale, and the Union Mining Company under the management of Col. Titus, is laboring vigorously for success. The other companies are doing little at present. We are rejoiced to learn that the Boundary Mine is to be worked by a company of capitalists from St. Louis. The mine was discovered by Mr. Guido Kostel, undoubtedly the most competent and experienced assayer and minerologist we have among us, and after several careful assays he pronounced it rich and easily worked. I do not learn of any work being done at present, but several men are on the ground holding possession for the Company.

The enterprising citizens of the Territory are about to commence running a stage between Fort Buchanan and Tucson, via Tubac. Though a regular mail route, the contract for carrying the mail has not been let,<sup>2</sup> and they propose to carry it and run the risk of receiving remuneration for postal service. This will enable our citizens to transmit and receive their letters with more regularity than can be done under the present arrangement of having a special carrier.

St. Louis *Missouri Republican*  
December 12, 1859.

<sup>1</sup> When Granville Oury was on his way to Richmond as delegate to the Confederate Congress, the *Mesilla Times* of Aug. 24, 1861, noted his arrival, and mentioned the "silver bars of which he had several from different mines."

<sup>2</sup> The *Arizonian* of March 31, 1859, announcing that a post office had been established at Tubac, remarked: "It is to be regretted that the absence of any mail route maintained by government, will somewhat diminish the receipts of the office!"

## LATEST FROM ARIZONA

The Female Captives — Mrs. Page Murdered by the Indians — The Little Girl Returned — An Exchange of Prisoners — Further Indian Depredations — Settlers Emigrating to California.

Tubac, March 30th, 1860.

A courier passed through our village to-day en route for Fort Buchanan with dispatches from Capt. Ewell relative to the woman and child recently stolen into captivity by the Apaches. We learn from him that the Pinals have brought in the child for exchange. They say that the captives were not taken by any of their tribe; that it was the work of the Tonto Apaches; that upon learning the event, they visited the Tontos and took the child away from them; that the woman could not be found and that the Tontos declared they had killed her.

Our information is exceedingly meagre. But a few days will suffice to place us in possession of all the facts. Many suppose the story of the robbery being the work of Tonto Apaches a mere ruse, and that after securing all the Indian prisoners in exchange for their captive, they will produce the woman and demand her ransom. If the Pinals can be believed, they are the most peaceable Indians in the world. They never admit their guilt and will asseverate their innocence in the face of most positive proof. Hence their story is just as likely to be false as otherwise. We will hope that it is so, and await further advices with unflagging interest.

Capt. Ewell's presence in the Indian country has produced no cessation of Apache depredations in the settlement. The country is literally swarming with roving bands of savages, and their footprints are seen in the vicinity of every ranche in this section. The *Arizonian* is filled with accounts of their doings and matters are daily progressing inversely from bad to worse.

Six work oxen were missing from Arivaca ranche on the morning of the 27th. An examination led to the discovery of a fresh Indian trail, and nine men were hastily mounted and sent in pursuit. About the same time another party of Indians who were secreted at some distance from headquarters, rushed upon a Mexican peon employed on the ranche and shot several arrows at him, but he succeeded in making his escape without receiving a wound. The nine men who had followed the trail of the stolen oxen, came up with the Indians after a hard ride of half a day and secured five of the cattle. The Indians fled and avoided a conflict with them.

On the following night the Indians again visited the ranche and stole eighteen oxen, inflicting also a lance wound in another. The Apaches appear to entertain a particular ill-will against this ranche for some unexplained reason, and are continually hovering in the vicinity watching an opportunity to annoy and trouble its owners. The loss of the Company from their visitations during the last three months cannot be less than \$3,000 although extraordinary precautions have been taken to keep a constant guard. In the instances to which I have alluded, the Company's animals were too much fatigued with the hard chase of the previous day to pursue this marauding party with any prospect of success, and some delay occurred in the endeavor to hire the horses belonging to several employees of the Company. At latest accounts, no party had started in pursuit and should men be sent they will necessarily be too poorly mounted to give much hope of overtaking the Indians. The Sonora E. and M. Company whose reduction works, as your readers know, are at Arivaca, have suffered so much of late from Indian depredations that they have not now sufficient animals to carry on their works, and it would not surprise me if the Director should decide to make a temporary suspension of opera-

tions.<sup>1</sup> Certainly there is little encouragement to purchase more animals and persevere in their efforts while the Apaches are lords of the soil.

I have written so much of late concerning our pressing need of adequate military protection that it would be a work of superegration to add anything more. Yet, notwithstanding almost every arrival of the Overland Mail carries you accounts of Indian troubles in Arizona, Col. Titus, now in the States, writes to the Republican that these statements are greatly exaggerated. What can be his object in making such a statement it is not my province to inquire. He well knew that the Indians were troublesome before he left here and they have become more daring and have committed excesses since that time, growing constantly worse and worse. If he would impeach the veracity of your correspondent, he must at least respect the official reports of Capt. Ewell and other officers of the army together with the statements of our leading citizens, all of which I have taken pains to engraft in my letters from time to time. I have stated, and every sensible man in Arizona will vouch for the truth, that if something is not done and that speedily, the white men will be driven from the soil and the Indian must again have undisputed sway.

Even now the exodus of the American settlers has commenced. Yesterday a party of six persons started for California with the remains of their stock which had escaped the thieving Apaches, determined to seek a home where life and property are more secure. Others are talking of following their example, completely discouraged by the prospects before them in Arizona. Several farmers have deserted their ranches and moved their families into town, fearing to leave the women and children alone in their homes while their duties called them to lands at some distance from the house. The abduction of the woman and child from their home at the base of the Santa Rita Mountains was a fearful warning to those living in exposed situations, and it is well for them that they profit by it.

<sup>1</sup> Oxen were needed to draw the heavy ore wagons from the mine to the mill.

The old Papago Chief, Tenacio, this morning returned me an Apache arrow which he borrowed several days ago. He has been holding pow-wows and incantations over it with a view to ascertaining whether there are now any Apaches hovering in our immediate vicinity. He informs me with much satisfaction that there are none, the charm having been completely successful in revealing to him this knowledge. This intelligence, if confirmed by subsequent experience, will prove very gratifying.

St. Louis *Missouri Republican*  
April 14, 1860

## LATEST FROM ARIZONA

The Election — Army News — The San Pedro Valley — Trains Arriving with Goods; Weather and Crops, &c.

Tubac, May 15, 1860.

The elections for the county and township officers on the 7th inst. passed off quietly and without excitement, resulting in the choice of good men who will fill the stations to which they have been elevated with zeal and ability.<sup>1</sup> Tucson was chosen as the county seat. The most ardent supporters of the Provisional Government have been looking anxiously for some action by Congress on the Territorial Bill with the hope that its passage would obviate the necessity of completing our present organization, and we have not yet lost all hope of the final passage before adjournment.

\* \* \*

<sup>101A&D</sup>  
Capt. R. S. Ewell is now at Aravaipa Cañon, engaged in laying off the Military Reservation of ten miles square for the new six-company post. A company of infantry under the command of Lieut. Cooke is already on duty there, and it is probable that Lieut. Lord's company of dragoons now *en route* for Fort Buchanan, will also be ordered there for the present.

<sup>1</sup>Fred A. Neville was elected Probate Judge and Christopher C. Dodson, Sheriff. Returns from Tubac and Calabasas showed a unanimous vote for making Tucson the county seat. *Sacramento Union*, May 23, 1860.

Parties are still leaving for the San Pedro valley and there is every prospect of a flourishing and permanent settlement being established there during the present season. If a town should be laid out in their vicinity, it will have many claims to importance and it is to be hoped that some enterprising persons will lay out a town plat. It will prove a good investment and at the same time greatly assist in settling up the Territory.

The great regularity and speed of the Overland Mail stages is now appreciated by the public, and through passengers have crowded almost every stage for the last two months and parties in Arizona desirous of going eastward can rarely get seats.

The *Arizonian* for last week announces that the difficulty heretofore existing between the editor, J. Howard Wells, Esq., and Col. E. E. Cross, "has been amicably adjusted to the satisfaction of the friends of both parties." It affords the writer great pleasure to communicate this to the readers of the *Republican*. Members of the same profession should be brethren and not permit their editorial thunders to mar personal relations.

\* \* \*

The goods and machinery of the Sonora Mining Company will be here in about a fortnight. At the annual meeting of the company in March, it was re-organized under a more liberal charter granted by the Legislature of New York. The company was styled "Sonora Exploring and Mining Company" under the old charter, but the exceeding richness of the Heintzelman mine rendered it unnecessary to engage in further explorations and the title of the company was changed accordingly.

Col. Talcott, late of the United States Army, has been appointed Director at the mines vice, S. H. Lathrop, Esq., resigned, and is daily expected. Mr. Lathrop will visit the States and return to Arizona in the autumn. Col. Titus has arrived with his party and has gone on to the mines.

The weather is now growing warm and the thermometer daily indicates over 90 deg. in the shade. Owing to the unusually wet winter, our farmers have a good supply of water for irrigating their lands, which is not likely to give out before the commencement of the rainy season. Late frosts have almost totally destroyed

the fruit in this vicinity, and other crops together with garden vegetables, have been injured to some extent. The grain all looks well and will be ripe for the harvest in another month. Near Altar, in Sonora, the farmers are already harvesting their grain, the season being several weeks more advanced than here.

Twenty-seven thousand dollars of the amount appropriated by Congress for the construction of Leach's road still remains in the Treasury, and the Secretary has wisely decided to expend it for the benefit of Arizona.<sup>2</sup> A commission has been issued to Captain Stone, of the Sonora Survey, authorizing him to expend fifteen thousand dollars of the amount on that portion of Leach's road between the Rio Gila and the San Pedro. The road passes Aravaipa Cañon at the site of the new six-company post, and crosses the San Pedro at a point near the new settlements.

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St. Louis *Missouri Republican*

June 3, 1860

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<sup>2</sup>The El Paso-Fort Yuma wagon road was laid out in 1858 under direction of James B. Leach. From Stein's Peak, it crossed the San Simon Valley north of the mail road. Reaching the San Pedro, it followed that valley to the Gila, along which it ran west. This was an emigrant road, with availability of water and forage the principal considerations.

## ARIZONA CORRESPONDENCE

Tubac, August 7, 1860.

A public meeting of the citizens of Arizona was held on the 5th inst., pursuant to adjournment, at the head quarters of the New York and Compadre Mining Company in the Sonoita Valley. Tubac, Fort Buchanan, and the various mining interests were fully represented. Great harmony prevailed, and the proceedings were conducted with a moderation scarcely to be expected in the present excited state of the public mind.

The Committee appointed at the former meeting to visit Sonora, submitted their report. . . . The report was accepted and a resolution requesting Capt. Ewell to release the prisoner, David Bontrager, was adopted without debate.

The Chairman stated that he had received a letter from Herman Ehrenberg, Esq., Pres. of the Cababi Mining Co., regretting his inability to attend the meeting, and expressive of his cordial co-operation in the proceedings. Mr. E. also stated that he was requested on behalf of Col. Andrew Talcott, of the Sonora E. and M. Company, to assure the meeting that he sympathized in the objects for which they convened, and was only prevented by illness from attending in person.

Mr. P. R. Way, of the Santa Rita S. M. Co., reported that he had been requested by Capt. R. S. Ewell, Commandant at Fort Buchanan, to state that his sympathies were with the meeting.

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Mr. B. C. Marshall stated on behalf of Messrs. Taliaferro and Grant, Government Contractors, that they would subscribe double the amount of any citizen, if a fund was raised for the purpose of offering a reward for the apprehension of the criminals.

Mr. E. H. Titus, on behalf of the Patagonia Mining Company, was authorized to state that the Company would co-operate with the meeting in any action that might be taken, and would contribute \$100 if funds were needed.

The Chairman read the following extract from a letter written by Don Antonio Perez, a leading citizen of Magdalena, Sonora, dated July 31, 1860:

I called on the Prefect, and gave him a list of the murderers with the places of their residence. He has promised that they shall be brought to justice, and an express left here last night (so I hear) with the order for their arrest. One thing certain is this: If the authorities wish to do justice to the citizens of Arizona, they have the power in their hands. They have the names of the murderers, with the towns in which they reside. We shall see what they will do in this matter. I have just been told that the Prefect has given official notice to the Governor, and requested him to send a general order for the arrest of the criminals to the Sonora river, and other parts of the State. The citizens here are very much incensed against these murderers, and while some are of the opinion that the authorities will punish them, others think differently. I think, for their own good they had better do something. You may rest assured that anything I can do to bring those murderers to justice, will be done with great pleasure.

A committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Appel, Mohrmann and McGovern of Tubac, Way, of the Santa Rita S. M. Co., and Major F. G. Ake, of the Sonoita Valley, was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. After a recess of a few minutes, the meeting was again called to order, when the Committee reported the following:

*Resolved*, That the people of Western Arizona view with horror and regret the late massacre at the San Pedro Mine, by Mexican peons, in which three unoffending Americans were murdered in cold blood; and we tender to the relatives of the deceased our heartfelt sympathies.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five citizens be appointed to correspond with the Alcaldes of Sonora and the Governor of the State, and request said Alcaldes and the Governor to extend all proper efforts to bring



the murderers to justice and restore the stolen property, and to assure the authorities of Sonora that the people of America will cheerfully reciprocate such action.

*Resolved*, That we unanimously request Gov. Pesqueira, in the name of humanity and justice, to take action in this matter, as twelve (12) Americans have been foully murdered in this region by Mexicans within the past two years, many robberies committed, and no action taken by the authorities of Sonora.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of five be requested to forward Governor Pesqueira a copy of these resolutions, and also the same to the different Alcaldes.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed the committee provided for by the second resolution, viz: Messrs. Ehrenberg, Hulsemann, Way, Elliott H. Titus and Col. E. E. Cross.

Mr. Marshall introduced a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of three to correspond with the Governor of New Mexico and request him to take measures for the proper organization of Arizona county, as created by act of legislature at the last session. After considerable debate, the resolution was laid on the table.

Col. Titus submitted the following:

*Resolved*, That this meeting repudiates the political organization styled the "Provisional Government," and that a committee of three be appointed whose duty it shall be to prepare petitions for signatures, and forward them to Washington, suing for the organizing of a judicial and land district.

Col. Titus, in advocating the adoption of this resolution, spoke of the necessity of having courts of law and a proper organization for the punishment of crimes. The Provisional Government, established originally by a minority of the people, had never been put in operation and though it was not now in existence, it was necessary to repudiate it in order to place our record before the country. It might be thought by some that this subject could not properly be brought before a meeting called for a different purpose, but its propriety could be seen at a glance when we reflected that there were no legal officers to whom the authorities of Sonora could give up the prisoners if they were arrested,

and it was not to be presumed that they would place them at the disposal of an enraged populace, to try them in committee of the whole. No civilized nation could do such an act, and we had no right to expect it. Let us, therefore, take measures at once to secure a Judicial District. Congress will grant us this, while we must appeal in vain for a Territorial organization. The Colonel also spoke in opposition to a Territorial form of government, supporting his reasons by argument. At the close of his remarks a vote was taken, when the resolution was adopted. The committee appointed under the resolution consists of the following gentlemen: Col. H. T. Titus, Appel and Warner.

Mr. Way, of the Santa Rita Silver Mining Co., submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That a meeting of the Superintendents and Managers of the different mining companies be called at some convenient place, to pass laws and regulations for the government of their Mexican laborers (or peons) as from past experience may be deemed necessary for their mutual interest and better security.

On motion, the Committee on Correspondence was authorized to call the meeting together whenever deemed desirable.

Brief testimonials were paid to the memories of Messrs. Brunckow and Moss by Col. E. E. Cross and Mr. B. C. Marshall, of the Boundary Mine. The Committee on Correspondence was authorized to have the proceedings printed in English and Spanish.

\* \* \*

St. Louis Missouri Republican  
August 27, 1860

and later became a captain in the Texas cavalry. At the end of the Civil War he went to St. Louis, then to Kansas.

Returning to Arizona in 1880, he located nineteen mining claims in the Chiricahua Mountains. He settled at Teviston, now named Bowie. After moving to Tucson, in 1897 he managed the San Xavier Hotel. Tevis died at Tucson on August 29, 1905.

The University of New Mexico Press published his reminiscences in 1954 under the title: *Arizona in the '50's*.

TITUS, Elliott H. Born 1827, in New York, a brother of H. T. Titus. He was killed by Apaches in late April or early May, 1861.

TITUS, Henry T. Born 1823, in New York or New Jersey, One of the best known of the "Border Ruffians" in Kansas, 1856-57, he lived near Lecompton and led armed bands against the Free Soilers. He took part in Walker's Nicaragua filibuster, hence his title of "colonel." He came to Arizona in 1858 where he became superintendent of the Union Exploring & Mining Company. With Elias Brevoort, he bought the Patagonia Mine from a group which included Captain Ewell and James Douglass; the mine was sold to Sylvester Mowry in April, 1860. Titus went east in 1859, returning as superintendent for the New York & Compadre Mining Company. He left Arizona in the fall of 1860.

TRÍAS, Angel. A man of great wealth, educated in Europe, he spoke six languages including fluent English. He was anti-American but appears to have extended great courtesy to individual Americans on occasion. He served eight terms of varying length as governor of Chihuahua. Since Trías was anti-Juárez, his alliance with Pesqueira must have been a temporary expedient for getting the railway concession through Sonora (Letter 36). In this he succeeded, but the capitalists he expected to interest in the project withdrew because of the uncertainties accompanying the French invasion of Mexico.

WALKER, John. Born in Kentucky, January 18, 1800. He married a niece of Zachary Taylor. President Buchanan appointed