

notice. The scene in the buffalo range—the “scamper” after those huge animals—is a truthful picture from the quick and fertile imagination of Chapman. Scenes of a similar nature were of almost daily occurrence while the Santa Fé pioneers were in the buffalo region, and the artist seems to have caught the spirit of the exciting chase. The “Incident upon the Prairies” is from a design by Casilear, and gives a faithful delineation of a wild and singular race. Both these engravings are from the burin of Messrs. Jordan and Halpin, and need no commendation. The view of “Puente Nacional” is taken from Ward’s work upon Mexico, the *diligencia* and the *litera* only added. The “City of Guanajuato” is from the same work, and gives a faithful view of the place: the author cannot say as much for the appearance of the Texan prisoners. They did not ride thus far into the city, and to attempt to picture them with fidelity would be impossible. The engraving of the Mexican girls is adopted from Nebel, and is given to show the costume and one of the customs of the females of that country.

Another word or two, and the author will throw himself upon the kindness of his reader. His attempt has been to interest and amuse; should it be thought that he has thrown too much levity amid scenes of suffering and of gloom, his excuse must be that he belongs rather to the school of laughing than crying philosophers—to a class who would rather see a smile upon the face of melancholy than a tear in the eye of mirth.

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OF THE

FIRST TEXAN SANTA FÉ EXPEDITION.

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"WHAT were the objects of the Santa Fé Expedition?" and "What induced *you* to accompany it?" are questions which have been so often asked me, that I cannot carry my reader a single mile upon the long journey before us until they are answered. Without preamble or preface, then, I will to the task.

In the early part of April, 1841, I determined upon making a tour of some kind upon the great Western Prairies, induced by the hope of correcting a derangement of health, and by a strong desire to visit regions inhabited only by the roaming Indian, to find new subjects upon which to write, as well as to participate in

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