

evening he appeared unusually so, cracked jokes and spun yarns, laughed, drank &c. He thinks because I take the slow way of travelling and frequent detentions so coolly, that I am quite a philosophic old woman, and will do to travel any place. He leaves tonight for the *Rio Bajo* settlements³⁹ to prepare for Gen. Kearny's arrival; and from thence he goes to Chihuahua to prepare for us, at least he is to get a house & necessary articles for house-keeping as he did here.

Dona Juliana called again this P. M. to see *mi alma* who was out yesterday. I rather retired from the conversation, save a little which *mi alma* interpreted to her. She is a great rogue to win the respects, good wishes, and esteem of *la nina* [little child], as she flatteringly spoke of me to my good husband, who by the way took it all well. "*A que Don Manuel, la Senora es muy linda, muchachita, la nina! Y que es major, ella es muy afable, muy placentera, muy buena.*" [Ah! Don Manuel, the lady is very pretty, only a little girl, a child: And what is more, she is very affable, very pleasing, very good.] Of course I heard none of this.

Wednesday 2nd Don Manuel esta muy malo todo el dia, y yo esta muy triste. [Samuel has been very sick all day, and I am very sad.] Brother James has gone and no one has been here today, save Mr. Robert

³⁹ All settlements below Santa Fé were collectively known as *Rio Abajo*. They comprised over a third of the population and the principal wealth of New Mexico. The settlements up the river were known as *Rio Arriba*.

Spears⁴⁰ of Missouri, who called this morning before breakfast.

Here I have sat all day brooding over and exerting all my energies to relieve by bathing and other outward applications, the severe pains in *mi alma's* head; but the relief is only momentary, and oh, how it hurts me to see him lying in such pain and my poor hands are so entirely worthless.

Mi alma is rather better tonight. Lieu. Warner called as we sat down to tea and took it with us.

Thursday 3rd. Una Senora [a lady] called to see me today, *mi alma* was in and interpreted for me, so my tongue was *vale nada* [no account]. Her name I do not know as yet, but her *lengua* [tongue] I do, for she kept in constant motion all the time of her visit, which lasted an hour and a half, very fashionable! She is a good old lady I dare say; speaks in favour of the foreigners, and without hesitation says Gen A[r]mijo is a *ladron* [thief] and coward.

She has great confidence in her own knowledge of *the men*, as she speaks of those staple objects of Creation, and says she wishes we could understand each

⁴⁰ Probably the same Robert Spears, of Doniphan's command, who was killed by Navaho Indians near Fray Cristobal, November 26, 1846. The army had a large flock of sheep, which was driven off by the Mexicans or Navaho. Spears and James Stewart followed the trail of the sheep and overtook them, but being without arms the Indians fell upon and killed them. One was pierced with thirteen arrows and the other with six or seven—the arrows were broken off and the barbed heads left in the wounds. Their heads were mashed with rocks and their bodies treated in a shocking manner.

other sufficiently well that she might give me some advice respecting their snares! She could lesson me to the fullest limit, I'd venture to say.

We are having fine protection near us in case of danger; the soldiers have made an encampment on the common just opposite our house, and though we are situated rather "out of town," we have as much noise about us as those who reside in the center of the city.— We have constant rumours that Gen. A[r]mijo has raised a large force of some five or six thousand men, in the South, and is on his march to retake possession of his kingdom. The news has spread a panic among many of his former followers, and whole families are fleeing, lest on his return they should be considered as traitors and treated accordingly.

In other families there is mourning and lamentations, for friends they may never again see on earth. A day or two before Gen. Kearny arrived, A[r]mijo collected a force of some three thousand men to go out and meet him, and even assembled them ready for a battle in the canon some twelve miles from town, but suddenly a trembling for his own personal safety seized his mind, and he dispersed his army, which if he had managed it properly could have entirely disabled the Gen's troops by blockading the road &c. and *fled himself!* While all these men, the citizens of Santa Fé and the adjacent villages, were assembled in the canon, and their families at home left entirely destitute of protection, the Neviyo [Navaho] Indians came upon them and carried off some twenty families. Since Gen. K.— arrived and has been so successful,

they have petitioned him to make a treaty with them, which he will not consent to till they return their prisoners, which 'tis probable they will do thro' fear, as they deem the Gen. something almost superhuman since he has walked in so quietly and taken possession of the pallace of the great A[r]mijo, their former fear.

Friday 4th. *Mi alma* has been away all day, and though entirely alone, I cannot say I have grown lonesome, for both my mind and body have been actively engaged.

I have my *housekeeping* to attend to now; and the opportunity for growing lonesome or sad in any way is rather poor. I've been teaching one of the Mexican servants his business how he is to do it &c., and though we have considered him one of the *numbskulls*, I have found him both willing and apt in learning. The great virtue of these servants is their ever pleasant faces; they never begin their work sullenly, and you may change it as often as you please or make them do it over, and over, and they continue in the same good humour, never mouthing and grumbling because they have too much to do, but remain perfectly submissive, and indeed it is a pleasure, when an underling is so faithful, to do them any little favour. Mine is a quiet little household, the servants are all doing their duty, the great bugbear to most house-keepers; and if I can do my duty so well as to gain *one* bright smile and sweet kiss, from my good, kind husband, on his return my joy will be complete for I trust my spiritual business has not been neglected.

Wrote a long letter to Mama, (to be sent tomorrow) telling her of my sickness at Bent's Fort.

Saturday 5th. Let me see what has transpired today within the little circle of my vision. After an early breakfast *mi alma* went out on business (not afraid to trust all things to his own "little one") and as usual I commenced my daily task—the superintending of the general business of house-keepers, such as sweeping, dusting, arranging and re-arranging of furniture, making of beds, ordering dinner, &c. &c. &c. This part being completed, I took up my sewing.

In a little while though I was called up to buy some vegetables from a little *muchacha* [girl], and a cunning piece she was too, knows well how to make her *granos* [small weights], *cuartillos* [close figuring], &c. the idea of her offering me four squashes for one real, and half a dozen ears of *mais verde* [green corn] for *un real y media* [a real and a half—7½ cents]. One must look out for themselves, I find if they do not wish to be cheated though only of a few cents, and called *tonta* [stupid], into the bargain. I shall know the next time better how to deal with them. — — — And I had a visit from an Indian chief too, but what is his name? Well at any rate his tribe is known as the Comanche. He speaks quite good English and some Spanish, and our conversation was carried on in both languages! he was well dressed in new boots, pants, hat, and white blanket-coat. He told me he was a friend to Don Manuel, had come to see me, asked if I was "good" *meaning well*, and among other questions—said he was bearing a letter to Gen. Kearny

(and showed it to me) from some of the officers here. I suppose it is something of a treaty.

Sunday 6th. I hope the first sabbath in the city of Santa Fé has been passed, so far as opportunities would admit, in a way deserving it. The morning was spent in reading the Bible and other pious books, and in serious reflections.

Though the sabbath, two gentlemen, Lieu. Warner & the aid de camp of our Gen. [called]; with the latter I had some conversation in regard to the neglect of this day by people generally, the traders and soldiers, especially, on the Plains; the advantage of a pious leader to the latter, and this called forth the information of the strict piety of Gen. Kearny an Episcopalian. This is truly fortunate, and increases doubly the already high esteem I have for that General.

Monday 7th. Received early this morning four mammoth bunches of purple grapes with the regards of Lieuts. Warner and Hammond,⁴¹ the latter aid to

⁴¹ Thomas Clark Hammond was born at Fort McHenry, Maryland, August 19, 1819. Entered the United States Military Academy July 1, 1837, and graduating therefrom served as second lieutenant in the Dragoons. Lieutenant Hammond married, January 28, 1845, Miss Mary A. Hughes, daughter of Judge M. M. Hughes, of Platte County, Missouri. The marriage was clandestine and took place on Pilot Knob, near Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; the ceremony being performed on horseback. The "angel baby" referred to (p. 146) was Thomas C. Hammond, Jr., born at Bee Creek Mills, May 22, 1846, and later a prominent physician of Platte County. Lieutenant Hammond was killed, December 6, 1846, in the battle of San Pasqual, California. A monument has been erected to his memory at Platte City, Missouri. (*History of Clay and Platte Counties, Missouri*, p. 945.)

Gen. K.— They are very sweet though smaller than the common grape of the States.

And today I've been constantly engaged, with my needle, market people, of whom I have gained some little information as to the names of different vegetables, prices &c.

What an everlasting noise these soldiers keep up— from early dawn till late at night they are blowing their trumpets, whooping like Indians, or making some unheard of sounds, *quite shocking to my delicate nerves.*

Tuesday 8th. No one has called today! surely we are not to be deserted thus! I've sat alone a good part of the day, thinking of those at home; how I should like to step in unawares upon them, and give what I know would be an "agreeable surprise," and how I would like for *some* of them to see me now how very happy and contented I am, how I am delighted with this new country, its people, my new house, or rather my *first* house, *which 'twas supposed* I should not be capable of managing, and last of all what a good, attentive, and affectionate husband I was fortunate enough to choose, though "young and wholly inexperienced."

Tonight we took a walk to the *plazo* [*plaza*—public square], the first time I've been there; my opportunity for seeing was not very good, for the night was dark, and they have no public lights. The *plazo* or square is very large—on one side is the government house with a wide portal in front, opposite is a large church commenced by the predecessor of Gov.

Armijo, 'tis not finished—and dwelling houses—the two remaining sides are fronted by stores and dwellings, all with portals, a shed the width of our pavements; it makes a *fine* walk—and in rainy weather there is no use for an umbrella.

They have a circle of trees around the square, leaving a wide street between them and the portal.— Within a few days past the American soldiers have erected a very tall pole in the center of the square; the flag is run up occasionally.

Wednesday 9th. *Una Senora* called this morning, and as usual when *mi alma is out*. I talked a good deal, she thinks I both speak and understand *bastante* [sufficiently] What an inquisitive, quick people they are! Every one must know if I have *una madre un padre, hermanos e hermanas* [a mother, father, brothers, and sisters], their names &c. They examine my work if I am engaged at any when they are in, and in an instant can tell me how it is done, though perhaps 'tis the first of the kind they have ever seen.

The market affords us fine *durasnos* [peaches] and delicious grapes, which though quite small are remarkably sweet and well flavoured; also good melons, the apples though, are inferior.

Thursday 10th. A cool day this, such weather though as we have had for more than a week. The air is fine and healthy; indeed the only redeeming quality of this part of New Mexico is its perfectly pure atmosphere, not the damp unhealthy dews of the States. One can walk through the deep grass here, and his shoes will never show at any time, either late in the

evening or at early dawn, the slightest moisture. We have occasionally a little thunder and slight sprinkle of rain, enough to settle the dust.

News is received that Gen. Kearny will be here by the 12th and that Col. Price,⁴² who has command of an other detachment of Malitia from the States, will

⁴² Sterling Price was a member of Congress from Missouri when the war with Mexico became imminent, and resigning therefrom he returned home for the purpose of raising troops. President Polk gave him a commission as colonel, and the troops raised by him were afterwards organized into the Second Missouri Regiment of Mounted Infantry. This regiment was permitted to elect its own officers, and much to the gratification of Price the men elected him to the chief command. This regiment followed Kearny, and with its train of baggage and provision wagons started to move in August, 1846, and after fifty-three days on the march, reached Santa Fé. Colonel Price and his staff preceded the main body, reaching Santa Fé September 28, 1846. For his gallantry and meritorious service in this war, Price was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general on July 20, 1847.

Price was a Virginian, born in Prince Edward County, September 11, 1809, and received his education at Hampden-Sydney College. In 1831 he traveled with his father's family to Fayette, Howard County, Missouri, and there entered the tobacco commission business. On May 14, 1833, he was married to Miss Martha Head. Later he conducted business in the town of Keytesville, Chariton County, and finally settled on a farm near the town, which was always thereafter his home.

Sterling Price was a member of the Missouri Legislature in 1836, 1840, and 1842, and on the last two occasions was chosen Speaker. He was a Democrat, and as such was elected to Congress in 1844. The popularity of General Price increased rapidly after his return from the Mexican War, and in 1852 he was elected governor of Missouri, being the anti-Benton candidate. The salary of governor was then two thousand dollars per annum,

be in soon, he is now within a few miles of the city. Lieut. Warner has waited on me this A. M. with an invitation to attend a Spanish ball given by the officers to the traders. As the only *traderess*, it would be

and at his suggestion was raised to twenty-five hundred dollars, but he refused to accept the increase for himself.

In 1861 events in the life of General Price ran a rapid and devious course. He was elected to the convention held in Missouri to decide the question of secession, and was chosen president of that convention. He opposed secession in and out of the convention, strongly advocating neutrality. On May 10, following, the state troops, in annual encampment at St. Louis, were made prisoners by Captain Lyon of the United States Army. On May 18 Governor Claiborne Jackson appointed Sterling Price major-general in command of the Missouri State Guard. The course of events brought General Price to decide upon joining the Confederate Army. He was made major-general by the Confederate Government, and led his troops with great skill and success in the battles of Wilson's Creek, Missouri; Pea Ridge, Arkansas; and Lexington, Missouri. In the latter engagement he had his men fight behind bales of hemp, moving them toward the enemy as they advanced. This movable fortification proved a great institution, and was unique in the annals of warfare.

General Price and his command were distinguished at Iuka and Corinth, but most of their operations were west of the Mississippi. The duties of the Trans-Mississippi Department consisted in keeping the Federal troops away from Texas, the great source of Confederate supplies, and in getting these transported across the Mississippi. In this the service of Price's army was of great value, and eminently successful, even after the opening up of that river by the Federals.

General Price was a soldier in every sense of the word, a strict disciplinarian and a great general. He was a handsome man of very large physique and very kindly nature. His troops spoke of him affectionately as "Old Pap Price" and idolized him.

offending in me after so polite a request, not to exhibit myself at the *managerie*, along with other bipeds of curiosity.

Friday 11th. What did I write of last yesterday? The managerie, well, now for a little critical view of it. I went in of course somewhat prepared to see; as I have often heard of such a show, I knew in a measure what to look for. First the ballroom, the walls of which were hung and fancifully decorated with the "stripes and stars," was opened to my view—there were before me numerous objects of the biped species, dressed in the seven rain-bow colours variously contrasted, and in fashions adapted to the reign of King Henry VIII, or of the great queen Elizabeth, *my memory* cannot exactly tell me which, they were entirely enveloped, on the first view in a cloud of smoke, and while some were circling in a mazy dance others were seated around the room next the wall enjoying the scene before them, and quietly puffing, both males and females their little cigarritas a delicate cigar made with a very little tobacco rolled in a corn shuck or bit of paper. I had not been seated more than fifteen

If any one asked what the men were cheering about, the answer would be: "It is either a rabbit, or General Price moving along the line."

After the war General Price went to Cordova, Mexico, where he received a grant of land from the Emperor Maximilian. He was joined there by many Confederates, but upon the fall of Maximilian they returned to the United States. General Price died in St. Louis of cholera, September 29, 1867. In 1911 the state of Missouri erected a bronze statue to his memory at Keytesville, Missouri.

minutes before Maj. Soards⁴³ an officer, a man of quick perception, irony, sarcasm, and wit, came up to me in true Mexican style, and with a polite, "Madam will you have a cigarita," drew from one pocket a *handfull of shucks and from an other a large horn of tobacco*, at once turning the whole thing to a burlesque.

Among the officers of the army I found some very agreeable, and all were very attentive to me. Liuts. Warner & Hammund, the principal managers of affairs did themselves credit in their interested and active movements to make the time pass agreeably to their visitors.

El Senor Vicario [the priest] was there to grace the gay halls with his priestly robes—he is a man rather short of statue, but that is made up in width, which not a little care for the stomach lends an assisting hand in completing the man. There was "Dona Tula"⁴⁴ the

⁴³ Major Thomas Swords, born in New York City, November 1, 1806, and graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1829. After serving in various parts of the Southern States, on March 3, 1839, he was promoted to the rank of captain and served on the frontier with General Henry Leavenworth against the Indians in the Southwest. On April 21, 1846, as major quartermaster, he was assigned to Kearny's command. When General Kearny's forces reached San Diego in January, 1847, Major Swords went to the Sandwich Islands to obtain clothing and supplies for the soldiers. He rose to the rank of colonel, and on March 13, 1865, was brevetted brigadier-general for faithful and efficient service in Quartermaster Department during the Civil War. General Swords retired February 22, 1869, and died in New York City, March 20, 1886.

⁴⁴ Gertrudes Barcelo, familiarly known as "La Tules." She was

principal *monte-bank keeper* in Santa Fé, a stately dame of a certain age, the possessor of a portion of that shrewd sense and fascinating manner necessary to allure the wayward, inexperienced youth to the hall

a native of Taos and went to Santa Fé in search of "fame and fortune," where she found both. She was considered the most expert monte dealer of her time. Of fascinating manners and distinctly Spanish type of beauty, she became a great favorite in official circles. In her long sala balls were given, where the officers attached to the Mexican garrison disported themselves as inclination demanded; these entertainments, however, being by invitation only. The card rooms were patronized by the *élite*, and hundreds of thousands of dollars were won and lost in this "sporting emporium," where this goddess of chance ruled supreme. During the American occupation she was a great favorite among the American officers, and having received information as to the conspiracy of December, 1846, through a mulatto servant, she gave warning to the military authorities. (Twitchell, *Old Santa Fe*, 338.)

It is said that this woman made a loan to the United States Government, through Colonel David D. Mitchell, who had been ordered to open communications between General Wool, supposed to be at Chihuahua, and the Army of the North. The Government not having, at Santa Fé, the thousand dollars necessary to purchase supplies for his men, Colonel Mitchell was at a loss how to raise the money. He finally thought of Senora Tules, but she proved obdurate. He got into her good graces, however, by escorting her to a ball, walking into the room with this notorious woman on his arm, which so flattered her that she consented to make the loan.

Monte was played with cards, suits being clubs, swords, suns, and cups, all delineated in their own proper colors and figures. Each suit numbered ten cards (like American) from ace to seven, and then knave, horse standing in the place of queen, and king. The mysteries of the game could be learned only by losing at it.

