

Fathers, soldiers, and converts, were obliged to subsist chiefly on milk for eight months.

Having obtained all his demands the Father President left the city of Mexico in September 1773, with various missionaries, officers, and soldiers, as also a grant of necessaries, consisting of maize, beans, flour and clothing, to the value of above twelve thousand dollars: and by his recommendation an expedition was ordered to proceed by the rivers Gila and Colorado, and to discover a passage by that route for the purpose of keeping up a communication by land, and thus avoid the misfortunes which had always befallen their expeditions by sea. Captain Juan Bautista Anza, commandant of Tubac in the province of Sonora, was appointed to this land expedition, and eventually arrived safe at Monterey. Father Junipero proceeded to San Blas in January. He divided the supplies between the packet boat San Antonio, and the new frigate; and embarked in the latter himself. She was called the Santiago of New Galicia, and commanded by his friend Don Juan Perez. Although they were bound direct to Monterey, yet from some of those fatalities which never ceased to attend them, they were obliged to put into San Diego, where they arrived on the thirteenth of March, after a passage of forty-nine days. The frigate afterwards pursued her voyage to Monterey, but Father Junipero chose to go overland for the purpose of visiting the other missions,

and on his way met captain Anza, who had, as before stated, passed overland from Sonora, and who informed him, that it was practicable to open a communication by the route he had come, and that according to his orders from the viceroy, he was about to take measures for establishing this communication.

Aranza here also informed the President of the deplorable state in which Monterey was from the want of Provisions, that "there was not so much as a cup of chocolate to enable them to break their fast"—a privation of all others the most insufferable to a Mexican Spaniard, to whom chocolate is one of the most indispensable necessities of life. The captain added, that they were reduced to live entirely on milk and herbs, without bread or any other thing whatever. This relation made the good Father shed tears, and he made all possible haste to arrive with the succours he had with him. He arrived on the eleventh of May, and found that the frigate had been there two days before him. The Father President was received at Monterey with the greatest demonstration of joy, and plenty once more appeared amongst them.

The frigate after remaining at Monterey till the eleventh of June, sailed, in conformity with the instructions of the viceroy, in order to make discoveries on the north-west coast. She proceeded as far as fifty-five degrees north, when she discovered

an inlet which they named Santa Margarita, and without seeming to have done anything else, they returned to Monterey, where they arrived on the twenty-seventh of August of the same year. A second voyage was afterwards made from San Blas by the same frigate, under the command of Don Bruno de Ezeta a captain in the royal navy, who took with him as his second in command, the same Don Juan Perez who commanded the previous expedition. The frigate was accompanied by a schooner commanded by Don Juan Francisco de la Bodega the future friend of Vancouver and who was so well known on this coast. This expedition sailed from San Blas in the middle of March, 1775. They proceeded to the northward, surveying the coast to forty-seven degrees of north latitude, when they lost sight of the schooner in a gale of wind on the thirtieth of July: the frigate however continued to coast northward till they arrived about the same latitude as in the last voyage, and having again returned to the forty-ninth degree they held a consultation of officers on the eleventh of August, and it was resolved in consequence of the greater part of the crew being ill of the scurvy, and the advanced state of the season, to return along shore, and to look out for the schooner. This plan was adopted, and they arrived at Monterey on the twenty-ninth of August, with almost all the sailors ill of the scurvy.

They here found the schooner which had safely arrived some time before them.

After receiving the account of this expedition, the Viceroy Bucareli determined to set on foot a third; and for that purpose ordered a frigate to be built at San Blas; and also sent a Lieutenant of the Navy to Peru to purchase a vessel to accompany the frigate. The new frigate was named the *Princesa*, and the ship purchased in Peru the *Favorita*; they were ordered to be got ready with all haste, and the Viceroy gave directions to put on board every thing necessary for a voyage of one year, with a sufficient crew, and complement of marines. Don Ignacio Artiago was appointed to command the squadron, and two missionaries from the Convent of San Fernando accompanied him. These two vessels sailed from San Blas on the twelfth of February, 1779; and as Don Juan Perez had died at sea on the former voyage, they took another pilot in his stead. The chief object of the expedition was said to be, to discover a passage to the North Atlantic. Nothing worthy of notice happened till they arrived at fifty-five degrees of north latitude on the third of June, when they entered a strait which they called the Strait of Bucareli; here they occupied themselves in looking for a passage to the eastward till the first of July, when they proceeded to the northward, and were in about sixty degrees of north

latitude on the first of August; and here they say they found a large port quite secure, and well provided with wood and water, as well as abundance of fish. This they took possession of and named Santiago. It is supposed to be what is now called Cook's Inlet. Finding an arm branching off to the northward, and appearing to run far inland, the commander dispatched an armed launch with an officer and a pilot to examine it, but after passing up this creek for some days, the launch returned without seeing any appearance of its termination; the crew, however, bringing with them some natives from the interior of the bay. The commander did not proceed farther in this survey, but as there were many sick, resolved, as the season was far advanced, and the equinox near, not to make any more surveys, but to consider his labours as concluded. He accordingly desired the pilots to make for some of the new settlements in California where he might cure the sick, and pass the equinox. Thereupon they stood for the port of San Fernando, which they reached on the fifteenth of September, 1779, when the usual masses and other religious ceremonies were performed to celebrate the happy issue of this adventurous voyage.

I have gone before the order of time for the purpose of giving a connected account of these voyages to the north-west; but I wish only to notice them in

as far as they relate to the establishments of California. It is sufficient to look at the dates, and the time employed on those voyages to show, that little could be added by them to nautical science or discovery. Modern voyagers know, that the summer weather continues in those latitudes long after the time the Spaniards considered it as concluded, and it would not now-a-days be thought very enterprising, if any of our commanders gave up his discoveries in the northern regions at the end of August! But the President and Commandant, Artiago, whose apprehensions of the equinox overcame his faith in the protection of our Lady of the Regla, thought it best to return in time, and found himself safely anchored in San Francisco on the fifteenth of September, seven days before the justly dreaded time of the sun's passing the line.

With the supply of provisions and other necessities which the President brought from Mexico, the missionaries recommenced their labours with much vigour, and had a corresponding success in the conversion of the natives and the establishment of new missions; but in the following year an occurrence took place which was considered of great importance, being no less than the attack of San Diego, and the assassination of one of the missionaries by the natives. This affair is related by Father Palou with great unction and becoming gra-

vity. "In proportion (says he) as the Fathers and the new christians were full of joy and peace, the discontent of the great enemy of souls was increased; his infernal fury could not suffer him to see that in the neighbourhood of San Diego his party of Gentiles was coming to a close, so many being brought over to our true religion by means of the ardent zeal of the ministers; and the more particularly, as they were about to plant another mission between San Gabriel and San Diego, which would effect the same with the Indians in that district, over which he still had the power, and which would of course diminish his party. He therefore bethought himself of some means, not only of preventing this new establishment, but of destroying that of San Diego, which was the oldest of the whole, and so revenge himself on the missionaries, his opponents. In order to accomplish these diabolical intentions, he availed himself of two converts from among those who had been sometime baptized, who after the feast of San Francisco, went amongst the Indians, publishing, that the fathers intended to put an end to the Gentiles, and to make them become christians by force; and in proof of this, desired them to consider how many had already been baptized. Although many doubted, yet the greater part believed the story of those apostates; and the Devil having so disposed them, he engendered in

their breast the passion of anger against the fathers; and with this disposition they formed the cruel intention of taking away their lives; as also to kill the soldiers, set fire to the mission, and so destroy the whole. Nothing of this was known at San Diego, nor was any such plot in the least apprehended; for although a serjeant and some soldiers were sent in search of the two converts who went away without leave, yet the only account they received was, that they had gone a long way inland towards the river Colorado, and nothing was observed among the Indians which indicated war: but what soon happened shows their intentions, which however they concealed with great art. More than a thousand Indians collected from different places, and divided themselves in two parties; one to attack the mission, and the other the Presidio where the soldiers were quartered. They intended to set fire to both at the same time, and to kill all the people; on which wicked design they set out armed with bows and arrows, spears and clubs.

They arrived at the bed of the river on the night of the fourth of November, whence the two divisions took their respective routes; the one for the Presidio, and the other for the mission. The party destined for the latter arrived at the huts of the converts without being observed; putting some Indians as guards to prevent the inmates from

going out or giving any alarm, and threatening them with death if they attempted to do so. Some then proceeded to the church and sacristy, for the purpose of robbing the ornaments, vestments, and whatever else they might find; while others laid hold of lights, and endeavoured to set the quarters of the soldiers on fire. These, who consisted only of a corporal and three men, were soon awakened by the horrid yells of the Indians, and immediately armed themselves; the Indians having already begun to discharge their arrows. The Father Vincente joined the soldiers, together with two boys. The Father Lewis who slept in a separate apartment, on hearing the noise went towards the Indians, and on approaching them made use of the usual salutation, "Amar a Dios, Hijos," (Love God, my children) when observing it was the Father they laid hold of him as a wolf would lay hold of a lamb, and carried him to the side of the rivulet. There they tore off his holy habit, commenced giving him blows with their clubs, and discharged innumerable arrows at him. Not contented with taking away his life with so much fury, they beat and cut to pieces his face, head, and the whole of his body, so that from head to foot nothing remained whole except his consecrated hands, which were found entire, in the place where he was murdered.

"Meanwhile others of the Indians proceeded to

the place where two carpenters and the blacksmith were sleeping, and who were awakened by the noise. The blacksmith ran out with his sword in hand, but was immediately shot dead with an arrow; one of the carpenters followed with a loaded musket, and shot some of the Indians, who were so much intimidated, that he was allowed to join the soldiers; the other carpenter who was ill was killed in bed by an arrow. The chief body of the Indians now engaged the soldiers, who made such good use of their fire arms by killing some and wounding others, that the Indians began to waver, but they at last set fire to the quarters of the Spaniards, which was only of wood, and who in order to avoid being roasted alive, valiantly sallied forth and took possession of another small hut which had served for a kitchen, and which was constructed of dried bricks. The walls however were little more than a yard in height, and only covered with branches of trees and leaves to keep out the sun. They defended themselves by keeping up a continual fire upon the multitude, who however annoyed them much with their arrows and wooden spears, more particularly at one side of the hut which was without a wall. Seeing the damage that by this means they were suffering, the soldiers resolved to take out of the house that was on fire, some bales to fill up the open part of the kitchen. In doing this, two of

them were wounded and disabled from giving any more assistance, but they succeeded in fetching the the bales, and filling up the breach with them. There then only remained the corporal, one soldier, the carpenter, and the Father Vincente. The corporal who was of great valour, and a good marksman, ordered that the others should load and prime the muskets, he only firing them off; by which method he killed or wounded as many as approached him. The Indians now seeing that their arrows were of no avail owing to the defence of the walls and bales, set fire to the covering of the kitchen; but as the materials were very slight, the corporal and his companions were still enabled to keep their position. They were greatly afraid lest their powder should be set on fire; and this would have been the case, if Father Vincente had not taken the precaution to cover it over with the skirt of his habit, which he did in disregard of the risk he ran of being blown up. The Indians finding that this mode of attack did not oblige their opponents to leave their fort, commenced throwing in burning faggots and stones, by which Father Vincente was wounded, but not very dangerously. The whole night passed in this manner, till on the rising of the sun the Indians gave up the contest, and retired carrying off all their killed and wounded. The whole of the defenders of the kitchen fort were wounded, the

corporal concealing his injuries until the Indians had retired, in order to avoid discouraging his companions."

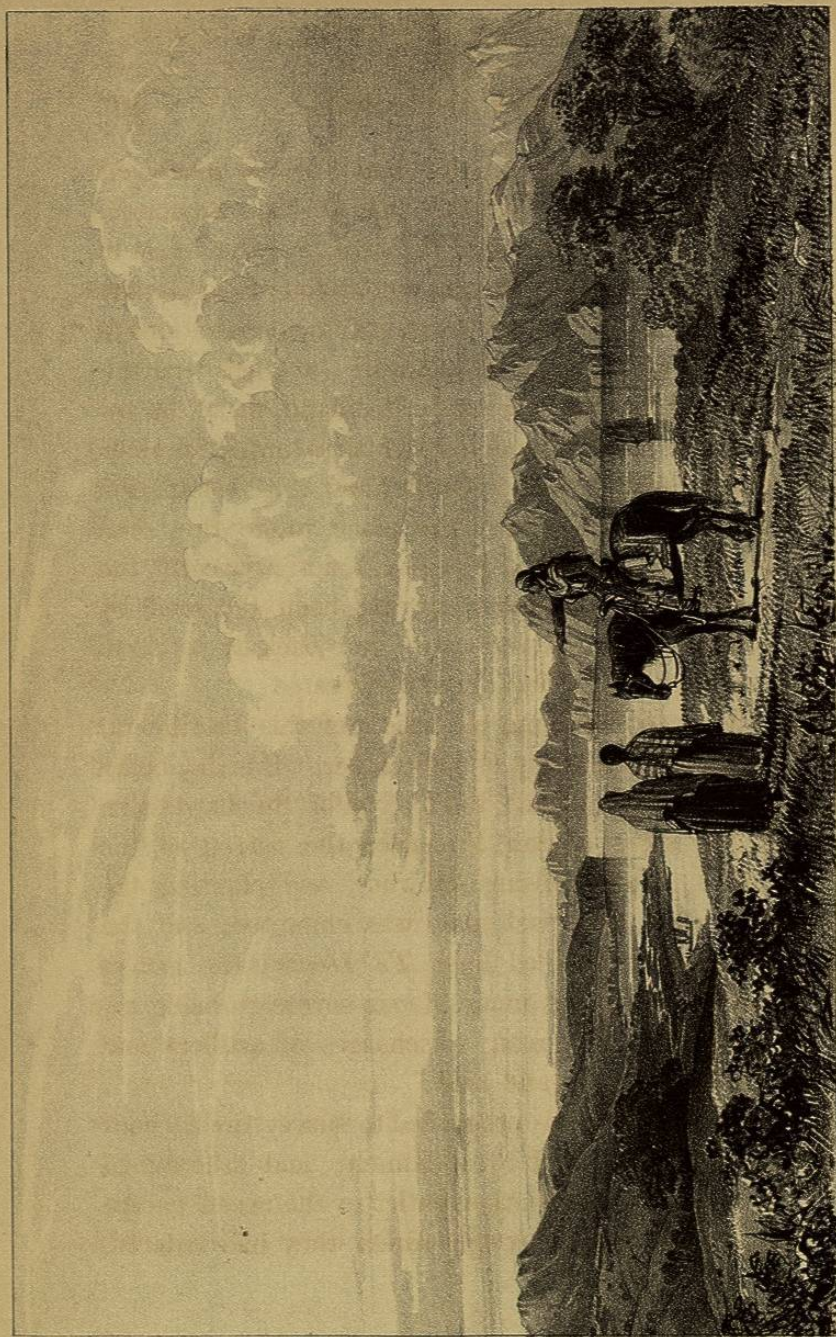
I have given the description of this contest at full length, and in the language of the Franciscan historian, in order to show, that a battle, when the forces on one side only consisted of three soldiers, commanded by a corporal, may be made nearly as much of on paper as when mighty armies meet. The account of the defence of the kitchen fort, is given with as much gravity and circumstantiality, as if the narrative were of one of Napoleon's victories; and it must be confessed, that the issue was as important to the individuals engaged in this Lilliputian combat, as was the result of Austerlitz or Lodi to their victor. It is also worthy of record, as being the most serious attempt to obstruct the Spanish missionaries in their *spiritual conquest* of California; and it may in some degree account for the apparently miraculous conquests of the Spaniards in Mexico and Peru in former times, by proving how superior the European with his musket and his gunpowder, is to the feeble and unskilful Indian with his bow and arrow.

On hearing of the misfortune which befel San Diego, the Father President who was then at Monterey, resolved to proceed to that mission; but was not able to accomplish his design till the month of

June. He then proceeded by sea in the *Princesa*, and with the assistance of the seamen of this vessel, the soldiers and others, he repaired the damages done by the Indians, and again put matters on the same footing as before the attack. Subsequently he set about forming another mission called *St. John Capistran*. On his way to this place he was about to be attacked by the Indians; but was saved by one of the converts, who had the presence of mind to call out in the Indian dialect, that many soldiers, were close behind; on which the assailants gave up their intention, and finally joined the Spaniards on their journey, receiving beads, and becoming friends.

After founding this mission, the President proceeded to Monterey, and prepared to establish that of San Francisco on the borders of the bay of that name, which had long been projected. He left Monterey on the seventeenth day of June, 1776, with some soldiers, and several families of people, who had come overland from Sonora to establish themselves in the country, carrying with them black cattle, mules, and necessaries for the new mission. One of the packet boats proceeded at the same time for the harbour of San Francisco, with the rest of the necessaries.

On the twenty-seventh of June the expedition arrived near the situation where they intended to



Day & Night View of the Queen

SAN FRANCISCO HARBOUR, UPPER CALIFORNIA

Capt. W. Sayth R.N. del.

plant the mission, on the banks of the lake near one of the arms of the bay of San Francisco. While they there waited the arrival of the vessel to determine the exact spot for its foundation, many of the natives came to them with demonstrations of peace, and expressed pleasure at their arrival. Finding that the packet boat did not make its appearance, they commenced cutting timber for their houses, and pitched upon the most eligible situation for the Presidio near the place where they had halted. Indeed the vessel did not arrive till the eighteenth of August, having been detained by contrary winds which drove her back as far as to the latitude of thirty-three degrees.

They took solemn possession of this Presidio on the seventeenth day of September, "this day being (says Father Palou) the festival of the impression of the sores of San Francisco the patron of the Port. After blessing, adoring, and planting the holy cross; the first mass was chaunted, and the ceremony concluded by a *Te Deum*; the act of possession in the name of our sovereign being accompanied with many discharges of artillery and musketry by sea and land."

They afterwards proceeded to survey the harbour both by land, and by a launch; and ascertained that there was no other outlet to the ocean except by the passage through which they had entered.

Previous to the vessel returning to San Blas, they performed the ceremony of taking possession of the mission, in the same manner as they had before done of the Presidio; and this they did on the day of San Francisco in the ninth of November.

It appears that about this time Father Palou joined the missionaries in Upper California, as he now begins to speak in the first person; consequently his authority is even more valuable than before. We resume our narrative in his words.

"None of the natives attended these ceremonies, as in the middle of August the whole of those who inhabited this place disappeared, going in their rush balsas, some to uninhabited islands in the bay, others to the other side of the strait. This movement was occasioned by their being surprized by a tribe or nation called the Salsonas, their great enemies, who on this occasion, killed a great number of them, and set fire to their huts. This misfortune we were unable to prevent, as the surprise and destruction took place without our knowledge, and when we endeavoured to detain the flying Indians they paid no attention to us. This flight of the Indians was the cause of our being a long time without making any converts, as we did not see any of them again till the end of March of the following year. They then began to get over the fear of their enemies and once more reposed some

confidence in us. The first baptism performed in this mission was on St. John's day of this year, 1776.

I shall not further follow the progress of the President Junipero Serra and his spiritual associates in the formation of the other missions; suffice it to say, that before his death, in 1782, there were established in addition to those already mentioned, Santa Clara, Santa Barbara, and San Buena Ventura; which, together with San Diego, Monterey, San Antonio, San Gabriel and San Francisco, made in the whole eight missions, all of which he occasionally visited.

But he had at last to yield up his account, and to withdraw from the field in which he had so long and so laboriously toiled; in the hope, however, of joining in another world his prototype and master San Francisco—whom he had so assiduously made the object of his veneration, and model for his labours in this.

"We piously believed (says Father Palou) that he had slept in the Lord a little before two in the afternoon, on the day of San Augustin, in the year 1782, and that he would go and receive in heaven the reward of all his apostolical labours. He finished his labourious life at the age of seventy years, nine months, and twenty-one days: he had passed fifty-three years, eleven months, and thirteen days,