

**ARIZONA AND SONORA: THE
GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, AND
RESOURCES OF THE SILVER
REGION OF NORTH AMERICA**

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Arizona and Sonora: the geography, history, and resources of the silver region of North America
by Sylvester Mowry

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SYLVESTER MOWRY

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TO THOSE LIVING,

AND THE

Memory of those Dead,

KILLED BY THE APACHE INDIANS IN THE STRUGGLE TO REDEEM
ARIZONA FROM BARBARISM, WHO HAVE BEEN FOR
YEARS MY FAST FRIENDS THROUGH
GOOD AND EVIL REPORT,

These Pages are Affectionately Dedicated.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.*

SINCE the delivery of the following address, more than four years ago, I have made several journeys in Sonora and Arizona, and have resided about a year at my place, the "Mowry Silver Mines," in Arizona.

In reading over the proof-sheets of this new edition, I find nothing to alter or correct in essential fact. The telegraph has just brought the intelligence of the Territorial organization of Arizona by the U. S. Congress, and the appointment of the governor, judges, and other officials. It is somewhat gratifying to me to know that gentlemen who, four years since, denied the necessity of this measure, and opposed it by vote and influence most virulently on political grounds, have seen the error of their ways. By reproducing my arguments and authorities, and even my words *verbatim et literatim*, they have paid a tribute to truth the more valuable that it comes from an unexpected source. As I had then and have now an ambition for Arizona far beyond private or personal views, I thank these gentlemen heartily, and make them welcome to "all the thunder" and all the political honors they have stolen from me.

The limits of an evening address necessarily precluded details, and obliged me to confine myself to general and prominent characteristics. The Appendix

* Published in 1863 by Roman and Company, San Francisco.

to this edition supplies this deficiency, and will, I trust, be found sufficiently full to make the work valuable for permanent use and future reference.

I claim for the following pages but one merit—accuracy of statement and an entire absence of exaggeration. No pains have been spared in verifying, from every valuable source, the facts presented, and I challenge the closest criticism on this point. The route laid down for the railroad from El Paso to Guaymas is only intended to indicate the general direction. It is made to run through the Gaudalupe Pass, because we know from actual survey that this Pass is practicable. I am informed, however, that a more southerly pass through the Sierra Madre exists, which would much shorten the distance from El Paso to Arizpe. General C. P. Stone informed me three years since that he was convinced of the existence of this pass.

The great opportunities now existing for permanent and richly paying investments in Sonora and Arizona can not be too highly estimated. Every facility is offered by the government for the development of the mines by foreign capitalists. The old prejudice against Americans is fast disappearing under the influence of contact and mutual interest. The owners of valuable mines are ready and willing to associate themselves with respectable Americans on liberal terms. The character of the men at this moment engaging in mining in Sonora and Arizona is a sure guarantee of honest and efficient management—a certain assurance of large returns.

In answer to many questions respecting the present governor of Sonora—Señor Don Ygnacio Pesqueira—I am glad to have the opportunity of saying that dur-

ing several years of intercourse with him, more or less intimate, I have found him honorable, liberal, and especially desirous of forwarding, in every legitimate manner, the wishes and views of Americans whose enterprise had led them to Sonora. He said recently, in conversation with several gentlemen, "I care nothing for the political views of Americans who come here in good faith to assist us in developing the mineral wealth of the state. They shall have from me all the assistance that my own influence and the government can afford." I am sure I am doing only an act of justice in acknowledging many kindnesses from this gentleman, whom I am proud to call my friend.

Being neither "a prophet, nor the son of a prophet," I have carefully avoided political speculations in reference to Sonora. Thick-coming and unforeseen events would be almost certain to "write down an ass" the man who is bold enough to predict nowadays. One thing, however, is sure—Sonora has taken a step in an advancing career which will not be impeded. Capital and intelligence have again gained a footing in this beautiful and wealthy state, and her course will be rapid to prosperity and power.

The organization of Arizona, with the establishment of courts, and the presence of a large military force, will restore order, guarantee capital and labor, and subdue or exterminate the hostile Apaches.

I beg to make my sincere acknowledgments to the gentlemen who have favored me with notes, and especially to Don Juan A. Robinson, of Sonora, and Mr. J. A. Peck, of San Francisco, for valuable manuscript notes of mining localities in Sonora, which I have not visited.

S. M.

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