

CALIFORNIA
'46 TO '88

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California '46 to '88 by Jacob Wright Harlan

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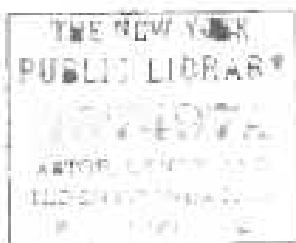
JACOB WRIGHT HARLAN



Now go * * * and note it in a book. — [Jewish, xxxi:3]

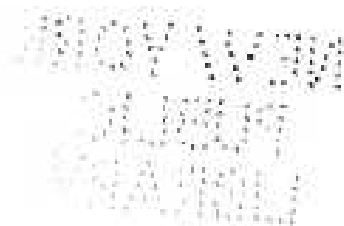


SAN FRANCISCO
THE BANCROFT COMPANY
1888



Copyright, 1913

By JACOB WRIGHT LARLEY



TO
GENERAL JOHN C. FRÉMONT
MY CAPT IN DAYS OF YORE
THIS STORY
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

P R E F A C E .

IT is usual for a bookmaker to present himself to his readers by something in way of preface. This might not be needed in the present case were it not that this writer deems it well to apologize for his boldness as an unlettered man, in trying to write a book at all, and also to crave that his frequent use of the first personal pronoun singular may not be set down to vanity, but rather to the fact of its being convenient for stating, briefly, matters personal to himself, and of his own memory and experience.

To old Pioneers in the American settlement of California some parts of the following record may appear incorrect, and some may be too familiar or unimportant to be interesting ; but let each fact be taken as a link in a chain of a California life, and its value, though small, may be acknowledged.

It has appeared to this writer that every fact relating to the early settlement of California should be recorded and treasured up ; in fact, that it is the duty of every Pioneer to put in writing his early California experience.

The acquisition of California; the discovery and development of its mineral riches; the outpouring

from older societies of the army of young men who at once occupied the new country and forced it into world-wide importance, form the chief romance of this century.

This Earth has become a much smaller affair than it was in 1840 to 1850. Railroad and Telegraph are every day making it smaller. There is no place on its surface for another California, such as was the California of those golden days. Golden not alone in the wealth yielded by the soil, but in the better wealth of the youth and health and pluck and energy of the founders of the present well ordered State.

It has been only by much persuasion that this writer has been induced to appear in print. Job, that old ranchero, wished that his "*adversary had written a book.*" He, perhaps, had been having some hard experience with newspaper men or reviewers of his day—if there were any

This Pioneer hopes that he is nobody's adversary, and that no critic may find it worth while to dissect this little story. Yet, if it be found worthy of notice, he trusts that it may be treated with charity, and the writer himself with whatever belongs to good humor and good fellowship.