

the following, in round numbers: eight thousand troops, six thousand of whom are still in Peru, but about to return; two thousand in Chili, with officers complete, all under the command of General Bulnes, nephew of the President.

The navy, increased by capture and purchase, consists of, and now in service, four ships, two brigs, two schooners, and a new forty-four gun frigate, expected daily from France.

During the time of our visit, June, 1839, the President, in his message, resigned the extraordinary powers conferred upon him, and recommended a reduction of the army to a peace establishment. Since that time he has been succeeded by his nephew, General Bulnes, who from all accounts retains the high reputation and popularity he gained in Peru.

From G. G. Hobson, Esq., United States' Consul at Valparaiso, and our countrymen resident there, we received every kindness and assistance, and from them we derived much information respecting the country. To the former I feel myself under many obligations for his great kindnesses, and the attention he gave to our business, the warm interest he took in the Expedition, and the manner in which he forwarded our views, and aided in procuring the necessary supplies. To him I feel bound to acknowledge my indebtedness for much valuable information, and the many agreeable hours spent in his family will long be remembered. He not only stands deservedly high with our countrymen, but has the respect and high consideration of the Chilean government. An American cannot but feel proud of such a representative abroad.

Our departure from Valparaiso was delayed for some days, owing to the non-arrival of the *Sea-Gull*, and the prevalence of north winds and calms, together with fogs. These often prevent vessels from sailing in the winter season.

During this time, one morning as the fogs lifted, a brig¹ was discovered in a dangerous situation near the beach of Concon; boats were immediately despatched to her relief; she proved to be the English brig *Superior*; the master was found dead drunk on his cabin-floor! She was towed to the anchorage, and placed in safety.

Lieutenant Craven was left at Valparaiso, to take command of the *Sea-Gull* when she should arrive. After a delay there of some months, he joined the Pacific Squadron, and was transferred to the Schooner *Boxer*, Lieutenant-Commandant Nicholson, which vessel made strict search for the *Sea-Gull* in all the places she could have possibly met with disaster, in conformity to the orders of Captain Clack, then in command of the Pacific Squadron.

I cannot resist the opportunity when speaking of Lieutenant Craven,