

or five thousand dollars in specie, and about ten thousand dollars in cattle, which he had reared and bought, through his own industry: this, it is supposed, fell into the hands of the governor, who was much in want of funds at the time, and could conceive of no way by which his coffers could be so readily replenished as by such a wholesale robbery.

After the arrest of Graham, more than sixty foreigners were taken up immediately, put into irons, and cast into prison with him. At the same time, orders were issued to apprehend every foreigner found upon the coast, and in case of their not giving bonds for their appearance, they were to be thrust into prison.

Forty-seven of these men were embarked in a vessel called the Guipuzcoa, loaded with irons, nearly half of whom are said to have been citizens of the United States. One of these died from the treatment he received; and the hardships they were obliged to undergo on their journey to Tepic, are almost past belief.

The Guipuzcoa was eleven days on her passage to San Blas, during which time the prisoners were kept in the hold of this small vessel, without light or air, and endured every description of ill treatment. On their arrival at San Blas, they were landed without delay, and immediately marched, in the short space of two days, to Tepic, a distance of sixty miles.

The thermometer was at 90°; the road was mountainous and rough; they were barefooted, heavily ironed, and without any food, except what was given them from charity. They were urged forward by lashes inflicted on their naked bodies, and one who sank under the fatigue was severely beaten with the but-end of a musket.

At Tepic, they found in the English and American consuls kind friends, who exerted themselves to relieve their wants, and finally, through their remonstrances, and those of the English and American ministers, they were allowed to return to California; and orders were given that they should produce certificates of their losses, and be paid for them. All the Englishmen have returned, with every necessary document to establish their claims, and obtain redress for their wrongs; but on the part of the Americans, this is far from being the case. Of them none but Graham have returned, and he is broken both in health and spirits. What remuneration he has received, I did not learn; but the French and English have all obtained indemnity, through the attention their governments have paid to their wrongs. Ours alone has failed in the prompt protection of its citizens; and many complaints are made by our countrymen abroad that the government at home seems to have very little regard for their lives or property.