

attention he paid to them, individually and collectively, and of his care and watchfulness in making provision for our sick.

On the 21st, the land party commenced their journey, with a young and intelligent Spaniard for a guide. The same day they made fifteen miles, passing over a dry portion of country, and encamped near two ponds, called in the country, Poros, the only place, as was supposed, where water could be obtained within twenty miles; they, however, found some the next day in the Rio Cosmenes, within a mile and a half of the camp. Game was, as usual, very abundant; but the whole country was suffering from the drought that has been before spoken of.

On the 22d, about noon, they crossed the river Mogueles, which was then a small stream; but at other seasons, it is said it cannot be crossed on horseback. They travelled this day as far as the San Juan; the only water that it contained was in small pools. This place had been termed the Frenchman's Camp. The ducks and geese had rendered the water scarcely drinkable.

On the 23d, before noon, they reached the San Joachim, which they found about fifty yards wide, and about three feet deep. Under the expectation of finding water, they were induced to ride forty-four miles, but were again disappointed. On the 24th, they entered among the Pul Porrice hills, a bare and barren range, composed of sandstone and volcanic rocks. As they approached the mission of San Jose, the country became more hilly, the oak abundant, and herds of cattle and horses were seen. On their way they fell in with large encampments of Indians, who were busily employed in collecting acorns. They were all half civilized as to dress, the men being clothed in shirts and trousers, some in velvet breeches; the women in calico gowns, and gay-coloured shawls; several hundred of these were met, each loaded with the beef which is distributed to them in weekly rations. They are annually allowed a short holiday to return to their native wilds, during the time acorns are in season.

The approach to the mission shows it to have once been a large establishment. It has all the appearance of a town, being built in the form of a street of considerable length. In the centre is the church and convent, with large dwelling-houses on each side of it, and on the opposite side the houses for the neophytes, consisting of small low buildings, with every appearance of filth and decay about them. Indeed the whole establishment is falling into ruins; the walls and gates are thrown down, and every thing wears a look of neglect, both in the buildings and the persons who inhabit them. The halcyon days of this mission have passed away; it is no longer the abode of