

Century- Old Echoes

from The Sentinel
files, 1857

(Being a perusal of The SENTINEL'S columns of ten decades ago—which few current California publications can offer).

Edited by Preston Sawyer

Davis & Jordan's new steamer "Santa Cruz" was the cynosure of all eyes around the local waterfront in this period of the summer of 1857.

The Sentinel of that far gone day gave the story a big play.

On Saturday July 25 appeared the following:

"TRIAL TRIP OF THE SANTA CRUZ

"The new and elegant steamship Santa Cruz arrived off this harbor at 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening, after a fine run of eight hours from San Francisco. As might be expected, the event occasioned no little sensation in our quiet place, and the gallant craft was welcomed by pretty much the entire town who repaired to the embarcadero, on the approach of the vessel.

"The booming of the ship's gun as she neared the wharf inaugurated (if we may so speak) the era of steam trade with our big commercial metropolis, and imparted a thrill of pleasure to all interested in the welfare and prosperity of our town and county.

"On this trial trip came down a very large number of passengers, all of whom expressed themselves as delighted with the ship, her accommodations, and the innumerable favors lavished upon them by Messrs. Davis & Jordan, the owners, Capt. Dame and Purser Colgrove.

"On Thursday afternoon the Santa Cruz again fired up, steamed over to Monterey, where she was received also with a salvo of artillery, which compliment was duly returned.

"Many of our citizens, ladies and gentlemen, accompanied the San Francisco party, and enjoyed themselves gloriously. An informal soiree was gotten up, by the ladies and gallants of Monterey, and for a few hours the Terpsichorean entertainment monopolized the attention of the brilliant assemblage.

"On Friday morning the Santa Cruz returned, but left again last evening for Monterey, and will take her departure for San Francisco this evening, as she is to remain but a few hours at the former place.

"This beautiful vessel excites general admiration. She is elegantly proportioned and sits the water like a duck. She combines strength, grace, speed and comfort and is admirably adapted to the coast trade.

"She brings down 150 tons assorted cargo."

"Church Notice

"The committee appointed to select a lot for a Presbyterian or Congregational church, will make their report on Saturday evening next, at the store of Anthony & Williams. All those interested will please attend."