

10 Jan 1862

Thomas Whaley to Brig. Gen.
George Wright — letter re.
part of San Diego facilities
and wonderful harbor.

San Francisco. January 10-1862.

Maj: Gen: George Wright,

Commanding Department Pacific.

Sir,

Permit an old resident of San Diego, in behalf of its citizens, to present to your notice, a few facts for consideration, before the Proposals advertised by the Deputy Quartermaster General, for landing at New San Diego, from the Steamer, or other vessels, such Government Troops, Stores and Supplies as may from time to time be shipped to that point. - en route for Fremont's Ranch, Fort Yuma &c. - are considered.

It would certainly cost the Department no more to ship to San Diego, requiring only a few more hours time, but saving many miles of land transportation, with the greatest possible certainty of being able to land with dispatch and with perfect safety at that port, which is not always to be done in the open Roadstead of San Pedro, as experienced on recent trips of the Steamers "Wright" & "Pacific".

The Bay of San Diego ranks next in importance to that of San Francisco on our Pacific coast; indeed, it is the only other harbor. It is of easy access and ever calmed. Goods may be landed in the most perfect order at all times, either upon the beach or wharf, at "La Playa", near the mouth of the harbor, or further up the Bay at New San Diego, where the same facilities exist; and, where too, stands the Government Depot, complete in every particular for Quartermaster and Commissary purchases.

The main building is substantially built, and of the capacity of several thousand tons.

The distance from New San Diego to Warner's Rancho by the new route, avoiding entirely "San Pasquale Hill", (about which so much has been said to the detriment of San Diego County,) is only 65 miles, over which heavily laden teams may travel with perfect safety - while the distance from San Pedro to Warner's Rancho is miles, over a road not a whit better.

This route from Warner's Rancho to Port Yuma is the same as must be travelled over going from San Pedro, Los Angeles or San Bernardino. It is to be regretted that General Wright, during his visit South the Past

Summer, may be able to be able to San Pedro officials or who are present the South officers of information Kellogg. A large wounded ported to but if it suggest be issued to San Diego diverted time and demanded.

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Sumner, had not extended his travels to San Diego to
be able himself to compare its advantages with those of
San Pedro, but then are there on his staff, who in their
official capacities, have long resided at San Diego, and
who are perfectly familiar with the various routes in
the southern part of this state, and to these gentlemen
offers I take the liberty of referring him for full in-
formation:— Maj Geo H. Ringgold. P.M. Capt Othen
Kellogg C.S. and Capt R. W. Nickham C.M.

A large amount of Gov. Stores, have recently been for-
warded to San Pedro, which of course must be trans-
ported by the way proposed by the Department,
but if not considered too presumptuous, allow me to
suggest that at some future time, instructions may
be issued to have a quantity of supplies shipped
to San Diego and a sufficient number of teams
diverted to that point that the difference in cost,
time &c, between the two routes, be more properly
demonstrated.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant.
Geo W. Kearney.

Jan. 10, 1862 - A LETTER TO

BRIG: GEN: GEORGE WRIGHT

RE: LANDING OF GOVERNMENT TROOPS

AT SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

San Francisco

January 10, 1862

Brig: Gen: George Wright,

Commanding Department Pacific

Sir,

Permit an old resident of San Diego, in behalf of its citizens, to present to your notice, a few facts for consideration, before the Proposals advertised by the Deputy Quartermaster General, -"for landing at New San Diego, from the Steamer, or other vessels, Such Government Troops, Stores and Supplies as may from time to time be Shipped to that point".- enroute fro Warner's Ranch, Fort Yma &c.- are concluded.

It would certainly cost the Department no more to Ship to San Diego, requiring only a few more hours time, but Saving many miles of land transportation, with the greatest possible certainty of being able to land with dispatch and with perfect Safety of that port, which is not always to be done in the open roadstead of San Pedro, as experienced on recent trips of the Steamers "Wright" & "Pacific". The Bay of San Diego ranks next in importance to that of San Francisco on our Pacific coast; indeed, it is the only other harbor. It is of easy access and ever calm. Goods may be landed in the most perfect order at all times, either upon the beach or wharf, at "la Playa", near the mouth of the harbor, or further up the Bay at New San Diego, where the same facilities exist; and, where too, stands the Government Depot, complete in every particular for Quartermaster and Commissary purposes. The main building is substantially built, and of the capacity of several thousand tons.

The distance from New San Diego to Warner's Ranch by the new route, avoiding entirely "San Pasqual Hill", (about which so much has been said to the detriment of San Diego County), is only 65 miles, over which heavily laden teams may travel with perfect safety - while the distance from San Pedro to Warner's Ranch is 125 miles over a road not a whit better. The route from Warners Ranch to Fort Yuma is the same as must be travelled over going from San Pedro, Los Angeles or San Bernardino. It is to be regretted that General Wright, during his visit South the Past Summer, had not extended his travels to San Diego to be able himself to compare its advantages with those of San Pedro, but there are those on his staff, who in their official capacities, have long resided at San Diego, and, who are perfectly familiar with the various routes in the Southern part of this State, and to those gentlemen officers I take the liberty of referring him for fuller information : Maj. Geo H. Ringgold, P.M. Capt John Kellogg, C.S. and Capt. R.W. Kirkham G.M.

A large amount of Gov. Stores have recently been forwarded to San Pedro, which of course must be transported by the way proposed by the Department, but if not considered too presumptuous, allow me to suggest that at some future time, instructions may be issued to have a quantity of supplies shipped to San Diego and a sufficient number of teams diverted to that point that the difference in cost, time &c, between the two routes be more properly demonstrated.

Very respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servant

Thos. Whaley

San Francisco

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