

Messrs. Reid and Bacon were among the most promising young officers in the squadron, and I was extremely well satisfied with the performance of their duty in the vessel. The crew consisted of fifteen persons.

Passed Midshipman James W. E. Reid was the son of the late Governor Reid of Florida. He was a native of Georgia, and entered the service in September, 1831. He was ordered to the Exploring Expedition in 1837, and appointed to the command of the *Sea-Gull*, one of the tenders attached to the Expedition, previous to sailing, in August, 1838.

Passed Midshipman Frederick A. Bacon, entered the service in May, 1832. He was a native of the State of Connecticut, where his highly respectable relatives reside. He joined the Expedition in 1838, and was attached to the *Sea-Gull*, previous to leaving the United States.

Both of these young officers brought with them into the Expedition a high character, and, during the short period which they were attached to it, they were distinguished for their devotedness to the arduous service in which we were engaged. Their deportment was that of ardent and zealous officers, and of upright and correct gentlemen.

Mr. Bacon left a widow and one child.

In the family of Mr. Reid there has been a remarkable fatality during our absence. His respectable father, the Governor of Florida, and three or four other members of his family, have since died.

During our stay at Valparaiso, the Chilean army was daily expected to arrive from Peru, and all were rejoicing over its success. All opposition to the existing administration had died away. The manner in which the government of General Prieto had carried through its plans, both of war and peace, had met with the approbation of all parties. One of the first acts of the government was to restore to their ranks, Generals Pinto, Borgono, and others, whose conduct had been extremely praiseworthy, though opposed to the government for the last eight years. They, although believing themselves ill used by it, discouraged all attempts at revolution, preferring to suffer themselves, rather than be instrumental in producing changes. Attention was now paid to the building of custom-houses, and other public works at Valparaiso, and elsewhere. The whole seemed to have given a fresh impulse to every thing in Chili. Those who had been at all doubtful of the stability of the government, lost their fears, and became its warmest supporters, while happiness and joy seemed to reign every where.

The Congress met on the 1st of June, when the President delivered