The first treng on the American him min Dacto Bancrof library Prenicios to 1850 menty all the travel to the multime mines award the Immi ear Dives at the food four arriles from the city at what was Called Musica Sanch. on the Leidsdorf grant. In the early sping of 1850 the waters were very high, and a firry boat was indispensible. Chry father IA D'B anyling on a thip from Sucramento to Coloma. hatted a few hours at Brighton, and the south exp, a resident of the place Said that he had a soon on the einer and travelles him to set them a cons the sime, That she would like to sell the heat; so

as to be reterined of the trouble end ourse ution, did and think it would buy much anyway, He affind the boat of only father for buy for it mutil he made Hout of the business. my father thought that It would pay will it ford and put into afration He hought the boat, came on, to culoura a and I must bada with him to take Charge of the boat It was and a evuple of kamaikas employed to put a cable a own the stream, and get the seven in prosition I will recorded the first money I tout anoth mas herious to getting the a env

in operation. I miner apost Came to the house and wanted to know if & could and him wars the river. There was a dupont up the stram about a half anile above the house where the water was and Chry rapid, I trok him up there and a curso the Ares river, Rearled one the price I told him 17,50. He said he had authing but dust I had fargallen any reales. He total one to my hand and when & thought he had powed on should to say so, when the shade of the handbuchif touched any palm & said to the house and migel it then was just you

but little consequence, Bancrott Library He was satisfied, and I am mu that I was, Allem the perry head was ready for apreation, Dome Alrola men on the mulle Dide, who would vise affected to to set set the Deale of hires, which were as follows, Fautman *1.50 chran + Dose 4,00, at night \$ 800 Majore + 2 House 8,00 span 4,00 I was only 17 years ald of that time, Et was heers any to have a man to an int me (The hoat was bulled a arms hand over hand) a young an an about 19 or 20

for Jims, who has heen a resident of Discurrento lo un Aince and was Bancroft Library livering them a few years Daluy of Borro by mouth In a few days it was town that a bury wa m operation, and there was a continual stream of transler, on the road to the hest of any recentialin there was but one ermplaint as to the toll, and that was from an emigrant that had come only the state the offers fall previous For sleven medes me lowed money as it were in that time me climed \$1100000. Clear of all estpense, Anndarp were our busiest days, The fradeus on minus

in the city mutil muday to the wines, the highest annual taken in any single day was \$36000 one Brilay. Wille the sine gut low enough to food ap armise the pury was usiles, It that time Rapt for Childs had promision of the Chains ranch, and resided there on he muth side of the him with his family of three ful about proving In an indired way thrug were prile a hempit to the fruity " Armed young (an amiddle apa) belowed would come out from the city every stunday and Amaday might hoselade The residuce was imedially But it would be herealte

the houses and own. afout, as they always come often doubt and returned that night this fury The girls afterward anied Jerone Davis of Daniville the pame place, and - Gully of Chapa Cr.

The First Ferry on the American River Near Sacramento.

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Bancroft Library

Previous to 1850 nearly all the travel to the northern mines crossed the American River at the ford four miles from the city at what was called Norris' Ranch on the Leidschrf grant. In the early spring of 1850 the waters were very high, and a ferry boat was indespensible.

My father, N.S. Bayley, on a trip from Sacramento to Coloma halted a few hours at Brighton, and the subject of a ferry came up. A resident of the place said that he had a scow on the river and travelers were continually troubling him to set them across the river, that he would like to sell the boat, so as to be relieved of the trouble and vexation, did not think it would pay much anyway. He offered the boat to my father for \$500.00 and he need not pay for it until he made it out of the business.

My father thought that it would pay well if moved down to the old ford and put into operation. He bought the boat came on to Coloma and I went back with him to take charge of the boat. It was moved down the river and a couple of Kanakas employed to put a cable across the stream and get the scow in position. I well recollect the first money I took in. It was previous to getting the scow in operation. A miner a foot came to the house and wanted to know if I could put him across the river. There was a dugout up the stream about a half mile above the house where the water was not very rapid. I took him up there and across the river. He asked me the price. I told him \$1.50. He said he had nothing but dust. I had forgotten my scales. He told me to put my handkerchief across my hand and when I thought he had poured in enough gold to say so,

when the slack of the handkerchief touched my palm I said there.

Bancroft Library

When I returned to the house and weighed it there was just \$7.00.

But a few dollars more or less in those days was of but little consequence. He was satisfied, and I am sure that I was.

When the ferry boat was ready for operation some stock men on the north side, who wanted use of the ferry frequently, were appealed to to set the scale of prices, which were as follows:

Footman\$1.50

Man and horse 4.00 at night \$8.00

(Wagon and two horses \$8.00 each additional span \$4.00 (of cattle

I was only 17 hears old at that time. It was necessary to have a man to assist me. (The boat was pulled across hand over hand) A young man about 19 or 20. Jo Sims, who has been a resident of Sacramento Co. ever since, and was living there a few years ago, was employed at a salary of \$200.00 pr month. In a few days it was known that a ferry was in operation, and there was a continual stream of travellers on the road. To the best of my recollection there was but one complaint as to the toll, and that was from an emigrant that had come into the state the fall previous. For eleven weeks we coined money as it were. In that time we cleared \$11,000.00 clear of all expenses. Sundays were our busiest days. The packers and miners would generally remain in the city until Monday morning before starting to the mines. The highest amount taken in any single day was \$360.00 one Sunday. When the river got low enough to ford, of course, the ferry was useless.

At that time Capt. Childs had possession of the Norris ranch, and resided there on the north side of the river with his family of

three girls about grown. In an indirect way they were quite a Bancroft Library benefit to the ferry. Several young (or middle aged) men would come out from the city every Saturday and Sunday night, horseback. The residence was immediately on the bank of the river. But it would be beneath their dignity to leave their hourse and cross afoot, as they always came after dark and returned that night their ferry bill was \$16.00 each.

The girls afterward married Jerone Davis of Davisville, Yolo Co., Jake Brown near the same place, and -- Tully of Napa Co.