**Title**A Yankee trader in the gold rush; the letters of **Franklin A. Buck**, compiled by Katherine A. White with Illustrations, Boston and New York, Houghton Mifflin Company, The Riverside Press Cambridge, 1930

**Creator**
[Buck, Franklin Agustus, 1826-1909.](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/mcc,gottscho,detr,nfor,wpa,aap,cwar,bbpix,cowellbib,calbkbib,consrvbib,bdsbib,dag,fsaall,gmd,pan,vv,presp,varstg,suffrg,nawbib,horyd,wtc,toddbib,mgw,ncr,ngp,musdibib,hlaw,papr,lhbumbib,rbpebib,lbcoll,alad,hh,aaodyssey,magbell,bbc,dcm,raelbib,runyon,dukesm,lomaxbib,mtj,gottlieb,aep,qlt,coolbib,fpnas,aasm,denn,relpet,amss,aaeo,mff,afc911bib,mjm,mnwp,rbcmillerbib,molden,ww2map,mfdipbib,afcnyebib,klpmap,hawp,omhbib,rbaapcbib,mal,ncpsbib,ncpm,lhbprbib,ftvbib,afcreed,aipn,cwband,flwpabib,wpapos,cmns,psbib,pin,coplandbib,cola,tccc,curt,mharendt,lhbcbbib,eaa,haybib,mesnbib,fine,cwnyhs,svybib,mmorse,afcwwgbib,mymhiwebib,uncall,afcwip,mtaft,manz,llstbib,fawbib,berl,fmuever,cdn,upboverbib,mussm,cic,afcpearl,awh,awhbib,sgp,wright,lhbtnbib,afcesnbib,hurstonbib,mreynoldsbib,spaldingbib,sgproto,scsmbib,afccalbib,mamcol:@OR(@field(AUTHOR+@3(Buck,+Franklin+Agustus,+1826+1909++))+@field(OTHER+@3(Buck,+Franklin+Agustus,+1826+1909++))))

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**SUMMARY**
A native of Maine, Franklin Agustus Buck was working in New York City when he heard of the gold strikes and set out for California in January 1849. A Yankee trader in the gold rush (1930) contains Buck's letters to his sister in Maine. They chronicle his first dozen years in the West: a voyage round the Horn to San Francisco; prospecting and storekeeping in various gold camps and the towns of Sacramento, Downieville, North Fork, Marysville, and Weaverville; and a trading voyage to Tahiti and Hawaii.

 **WEAVERVILLE, *April* 27, [1865]**

Shall I describe the reception of the next event--the assassination of the President. We got the first *intimation* of it at two o'clock that day but did not get all the particulars until about eight. We could hardly believe the first report but in the evening we had all the particulars to his dying at 22 minutes past seven that very morning. The crowd listened as it came word by word and we all looked and felt as though we were hearing of the death of some of our families, some near relative in the States. Probably no man since Washington was ever so *mourned*. In this far off State every little town was draped in black and Wednesday the 19th was observed by funeral ceremonies. In this place all business was *suspended*. We had a very large *procession* and both military companies marched to the theatre. Jones delivered a very good *eulogy* on the late President. We had music from our brass band and singing by a select choir suitable to the occasion. The Methodist Minister made the prayer and the Catholic Priest pronounced the *benediction*. We have about decided to quit all social intimacy with some of our Southern friends whom we have gotten along with up to this time by ignoring the subject of the war when we are in their company. They have taken no part in our rejoicing or in our *mourning*.

We have heard that one lady from Missouri made the remark that when she heard of Lee's surrender her heart failed her and she thought that God had forsaken them, but when she heard of the killing of the President she thought that God had again remembered them and was on their side--and there are many who think the same way. They have to *rejoice* over this event in their own houses and among themselves. They are very careful what they say on the street.

*intimation-*

*mourned-*

*suspended-*

*procession-*

*eulogy-*

*benediction-*

*rejoice-*