2.8.4

Git v2.8.4 Release Notes ========================

Fixes since v2.8.3 ------------------

- Documentation for "git merge --verify-signatures" has been updated to clarify that the signature of only the commit at the tip is verified. Also the phrasing used for signature and key validity is adjusted to align with that used by OpenPGP.

- On Windows, .git and optionally any files whose name starts with a dot are now marked as hidden, with a core.hideDotFiles knob to customize this behaviour.

- Portability enhancement for "rebase -i" to help platforms whose shell does not like "for i in <empty>" (which is not POSIX-kosher).

- "git fsck" learned to catch NUL byte in a commit object as potential error and warn.

- CI test was taught to build documentation pages.

- Many ’linkgit:<git documentation page>’ references were broken, which are all fixed with this.

- "git describe --contains" often made a hard-to-justify choice of tag to give name to a given commit, because it tried to come up with a name with smallest number of hops from a tag, causing an old commit whose close descendant that is recently tagged were not described with respect to an old tag but with a newer tag. It did not help that its computation of "hop" count was further tweaked to penalize being on a side branch of a merge. The logic has been updated to favor using the tag with the oldest tagger date, which is a lot easier to explain to the end users: "We describe a commit in terms of the (chronologically) oldest tag that contains the commit."

- Running tests with ’-x’ option to trace the individual command executions is a useful way to debug test scripts, but some tests that capture the standard error stream and check what the command said can be broken with the trace output mixed in. When running our tests under "bash", however, we can redirect the trace output to another file descriptor to keep the standard error of programs being tested intact.

- "http.cookieFile" configuration variable clearly wants a pathname, but we forgot to treat it as such by e.g. applying tilde expansion.

- When de-initialising all submodules, "git submodule deinit" gave a faulty recommendation to use "git submodule deinit .", which would result in a strange error message in a

pathological corner case. This has been corrected to suggest "submodule deinit --all" instead.

- Many commands normalize command line arguments from NFD to NFC variant of UTF-8 on OSX, but commands in the "diff" family did not, causing "git diff $path" to complain that no such path is known to Git. They have been taught to do the normalization.

- A couple of bugs around core.autocrlf have been fixed.

- "git difftool" learned to handle unmerged paths correctly in dir-diff mode.

- The "are we talking with TTY, doing an interactive session?" detection has been updated to work better for "Git for Windows".

Also contains other minor documentation updates and code clean-ups.

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